



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

NO. 37

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**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
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AFGHANISTAN REPORT

APRIL 1987

CRISIS AND CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM (CCAT) AFGHANISTAN

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1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

IJAZ S. GILANI
NASEEM RIZVI

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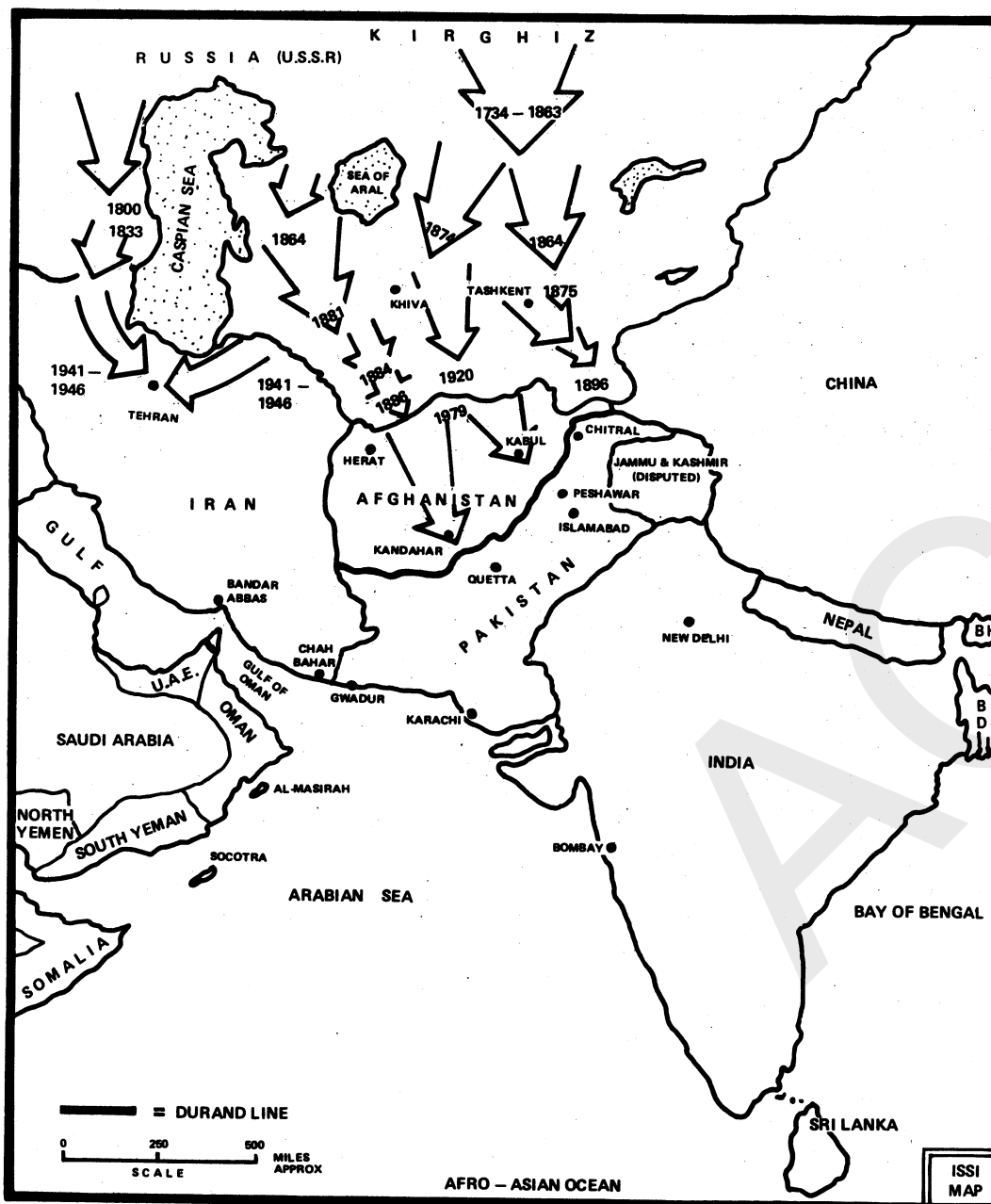
ACRONYMS

AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
DRA	=	Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
IRC	=	International Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KNT	=	Kabul New Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NFF	=	National Fatherland Front.
NVDP	=	Ningarhar Valley Development Project.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'	=	Those who take part in Jihad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I. — THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 — SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (see map Appendix 6)

A glance at available statistics would show that the total number of military engagements in Afghanistan during April 1987 approximated 500 mark against 408 operations reported in April 1986. The 497 operations for 1987 comprised 183 Mujahideen mobile and 116 immobile targets.

Mujahideen sources reported conflict in 26 of the 29 provinces of Afghanistan except Bamiyan, Ghor, Warda, Radio Kabul reported 7 operations beside 5 incidents of subversion by "counter-revolutionaries" in 5 provinces. Radio Kabul claimed that 2,615 people had returned to their homes or had laid down their arms in 11 provinces during the month.

The highest number of engagement was reported from Ningarhar, Paktiya and Qandahar followed by Baghlan and Herat. Fifteen provincial capitals, including the country's 4 major cities, witnessed fighting. The capital Kabul saw a series of bomb blasts. There was heavy fighting inside and around the cities of Qandahar and Herat.

The broad objective of Soviet-Kabul spring offensives seemed to be:

- (i) to eliminate existing Mujahideen strongholds;
- (ii) to prevent Mujahideen's return to "interior" provinces in post-winter season.

Their increased reliance on the air force in pursuit of these objectives cost them much more than before in men and material resources.

Many newly established/reinforced security posts become Mujahideen targets alongwith other government establishments and PDPA and KHAD offices.

Month	Mujahideen Operations	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Total Engagements
April 1985	98	59	157
April 1986	291	117	408
April 1987	300	198	498

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad, in the preparation of this part of the monthly report.

It has been noted over the past few years that as the temperature starts rising after winter months, the fighting too becomes hotter correspondingly. That has been the pattern, but there could possibly be other reasons as well. The people monitoring news coverage of Kabul Radio have noted that they have started admitting their vulnerability to Mujahideen attacks. Kabul now often refers to sabotage and other types of "counter-revolutionary" action. This is even as Radio Moscow has been broadcasting stories about crossing of the river Oxus by the Mujahideen to attack Soviets in Tajikistan. Possibly there is a little more of "openness" in this approach.

2 — MAJOR MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS

A study of Soviet-Kabul operations for the month of April 1987 shows that Kabul's dependence on the air force is increasing vis-a-vis ground forces.

As per Appendix-4 the Mujahideen sources reported 111 Soviet-Kabul air operations against Afghan Mujahideen positions and civilian areas in 18 of the 29 provinces. No ground operations were undertaken by the Soviet-Kabul forces in 13 provinces. 11 out of the 18 provinces in which Soviet-Kabul air force was in action witnessed collaborated ground and air attacks against the Mujahideen.

Another significant feature of the fighting was that the Mujahideen practically reciprocated most of the Soviet-Kabul air attacks by downing Soviet built air machines. In 16 out of 18 provinces where Soviet aircraft operated, the Mujahideen were able to bring down 41 aircraft and 46 helicopters.

Provinces along Pakistani borders

Mujahideen eliminated a number of posts in Mir Wais Maidan area of Qandahar province. Mujahideen conducted an attack on Qandahar district jail and got 22 civilians released. Mujahideen attacked the Khad headquarters in Qandahar, inflicted losses to the building and its wireless communication section, killing 16 Khad personnel. Mujahideen hit 2 posts near Spinbuldak.

Obstructing Mujahideen mobility

In Zabul, a Soviet-Kabul tank contingent supported by gunship helicopters blocked a Mujahideen convoy comprised of a large number of vehicles. It was carrying supplies to Qandahar, Herat and Hilmand. The Soviet-Kabul force captured and destroyed 17 vehicles of the Mujahideen. This, according to Mujahideen, is part of Soviet-Kabul

strategy to ambush and engage Mujahideen caravans short of their destinations and thus deny essential supplies to the fighters in the liberated areas.

Mujahideen destroyed a power house in Ghazni city where the electricity remained suspended for over a week. Mujahideen also attacked Muqur camp.

Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul positions in Mohamad Dara area which caused closure of Torkham-Jalalabad road for 9 hours.

Soviet-Kabul forces continued efforts to build another military base in Ningarhar in a bid to mount pressure on Pakistani borders. Mujahideen attacked Ghani Khel regiment positions and Hada Farm security posts. They also raided posts in Shinwar.

Major Soviet-Kabul offensives

Soviet-Kabul forces landed paratroopers while helicopters and jets bombarded Mujahideen positions in Khugiani district in Ningarhar. The force then proceeded to Maru where the Mujahideen bases were under heavy attack. Soviet-Kabul planes conducted raids on Mujahideen Zafar Front inflicting some casualties. Later Soviet-Kabul troops attacked Mujahideen's Chinari and Sarobi centres. Hundreds of Mujahideen resisted and eventually frustrated the offensive in Nazian district.

Since late March Soviet-Kabul jets have been conducting strikes at different place in Kunar province. Mujahideen attacked Sarkani barracks in early April. Mujahideen fired rockets at Naruz, close to Sarkani, which resulted in retaliatory raids by Soviet-Kabul jets.

A heavy Soviet-Kabul ground force reached Chaga Sarai with air support. They heavily bombarded Mujahideen positions. Mujahideen responded to artillery fire by shelling targets in Chagani, Tisha and Salar Bagh and attacked the advancing Soviet-Kabul column that reached Asmar. A report received on April 22 stated that fighting was continuing in that area.

Atrocities

Soviet-Kabul bombardment left 16 civilians killed in Nade Ali district in Hilmand province.

Over 30 people got killed during air and ground attacks of the Soviet-Kabul forces in Kunar province.

Provinces along the Soviet borders

About 140 operations took place in all the 10 provinces close to Soviet border, from Badakhshan to Herat.

Soviet-Kabul retaliatory actions

Retaliatory operations were conducted by Soviet-Kabul forces in Yangu Qila, Kalafgan and other areas of Takhar province where severe clashes took place between Soviet-Kabul paratroopers and Mujahideen.

In early April "retaliation" continued on the part of Soviet-Kabul forces. Pravda reported that Soviet-Kabul troops had besieged the "remaining culprits of the counter-revolutionary groups in Afghanistan" who had shelled a regional centre of the Soviet Union in early March this year north of Kunduz. Baghlan city faced the roughest treatment where the Soviet-Kabul air and ground forces launched a big operation against the Mujahideen, inflicting heavy losses, beside capturing 29 Mujahideen with their arms laden horses.

The Mujahideen conducted attacks both from inside and out of the city to break the siege destroying 31 light and heavy vehicles. About 200 men were killed. A Soviet-Kabul force carried out big operation against Mujahideen bases in 2 districts of Faryab province.

Atrocities

15 unarmed civilians got killed in Takhar during Soviet-Kabul mopping up operation. 20 civilians got killed during air strikes on Baghlan industrial outskirts. The bombardment caused destruction of 20 houses and loss of 60 heads of cattle. Mujahideen lost 40 dead and 30 wounded in the air raids that continued for 6 days.

In Kunduz province the local civilians suffered heavy losses in wake of Soviet-Kabul punitive operations: In Iman village 20 civilians got killed. In Imam Sahib a number of civilians became victim of Soviet-Kabul air raids. Soviet jets continued bombing for 3 days destroying 52 houses in an area. Dozens of civilians became target of the bombing in areas surrounding the Mujahideen positions. Soviet press admitted the use of artillery in these areas.

Bombing by Soviet-Kabul jets left four civilians killed in the surroundings of Ghower Mach town in Badghis. 12 houses were destroyed and several cattle were killed.

Mujahideen military operations

In Badakhshan Mujahideen retaliated a Soviet-Kabul attack on their centre in Kisham.

Mujahideen conducted several operations around Taloqan city. Mujahideen frustrated attacks by Soviet paratroopers. Mujahideen successfully struck a number of targets of political and military significance, particularly in Takhar province. A news received late from Khwaja Ghaur tells that Mujahideen attacked some military establish-

ments killing several officials alongwith the 'mayor' of the area.

Mujahideen fired missiles on the headquarter of Khad (secret police) inflicting damage on the installations. In a later attack in mid-April the Mujahideen in an ambush killed Karim Khan, chief of Khad in Takhar province alongwith 2 Soviet officers.

The "Governor" of Takhar alongwith his body guards and other Afghan troops defected to the Mujahideen.

Mujahideen struck 2 security posts near Khanabad. Mujahideen destroyed another Khad office 20 km from Samangan and frustrated attempts to set up a post in the area. The Mujahideen struck 5 security posts in Taluqan.

Mujahideen attacked security posts in Pul-e-Khumri, a convoy on the Salang Highway, and Qila Gai supply centre during the second and third weeks of April.

Mujahideen attacked 2 posts east of Maimana and captured 8 other in Faryab city. Mujahideen captured 3 senior officials of the National Reconciliation Committee in broad day light from a Faryab city commercial centre.

Provinces along the Iranian borders

The Mujahideen struck gas and oil pipeline at Chist Sharif in Herat province which took the regime several days to repair. Mujahideen frustrated a number of raids around Herat city's western suburbs when Soviet-Kabul forces attempted to besiege certain Mujahideen positions. In Ghorian the Mujahideen planted mines in the way of attacking Soviet-Kabul troops. Later Soviet-Kabul helicopters and ground forces conducted a combined attack in a bid to drive the Mujahideen out of an area where Mujahideen had infiltrated the security belt. Mujahideen were resisting the offensive on April 21.

Kabul and adjacent provinces

In Kabul Mujahideen exploded bombs in a government bus at Qila-e-Zaman Station, at a cinema and at Kote Sangi, the commercial areas where Soviets come for shopping. Combined Soviet-Kabul forces attacked Mujahideen positions in Qarabagh district where heavy fighting continued for several hours.

Mujahideen shot dead a Khad officer near Shehr Nau. Mujahideen attack on a Soviet-Kabul convoy in Mir Bacha Kot district resulted in retaliatory artillery fire on the bazar where civilian suffered casualties and a passenger bus caught fire. Further bombing caused destruction to several houses beside loss of cattle.

Anticipating Mujahideen operations in connection with the Saur

revolution celebrations, tight security arrangements were made to protect the capital from Mujahideen raids. The city was surrounded by a chain of security posts with over 8000 Soviet-Kabul troops on round-the-clock guard.

Kabul Radio (perhaps trying to keep pace with Moscow's "policy of openness") aired a number of news items one after another between April 22-28 stating that:

- i. Security forces seized a large number of weapons including 75 kg of explosives and 10,000 cartridges skilfully placed in the body of a vehicle in south of Kabul city;
- ii. A plan was foiled to fire 55 missiles on Kabul city on the occasion of Saur revolution celebration;
- iii. DRA forces seized an ammunition depot alongwith missiles and its launching unit.

Parwan

Mujahideen attacked a convoy destroying 4 oil tankers on the Kabul-Salang Highway which remained closed for 3 hours.

"Some deadly bombs" fired from Soviet-Kabul army centre at Qila-e-Surkh, set a number of houses on fire.

A Mujahideen Cdr. said that Soviet-built aircraft were resorting to night attacks on rural localities. Moreover, surveillance planes now fly close to the main Salang Highway guarded by Soviet-Kabul ground forces.

Mujahideen killed a Khad official in Parwan province.

Laghman

Soviet army campaign to wipe out Mujahideen position was frustrated by Mujahideen.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also Bordering Iran)

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen conducted an attack on a Soviet-Kabul sponsored "heroin distribution centre" near Rabat on the Afghan-Iranian border on April 4. It was earlier reported that heroin was being smuggled into Iran and Pakistan from this point through 'agents' who also carried out or were instrumental in sabotage activities in the neighbouring countries. Mujahideen burnt over 120 kilograms of heroin at this centre. The keepers of the centre fled away to Zaranj,

provincial headquarters of Nimruz, without putting up any resistance.

On April 6, Mujahideen attacked Zaranj. In the fierce fighting a large number of Soviet-Afghan soldiers were killed. Twenty-six soldiers were captured. Eight tanks were destroyed. Mujahideen lost 14 killed and 16 injured.

Radio Kabul: Following the proclamation of national reconciliation and general amnesty decree, about 400 of our compatriots returned to their homes in Herat and Nimruz provinces via Islam Qala and Nimruz border post recently. Later relief goods from the friendly country Soviet Union were distributed among our returned compatriots (News-Pushto: 2 April, 1987)*.

A secret arms depot of the extremists was unearthed in Nimruz province recently. The arms discovered included ground-to-ground missiles, sophisticated land-mines and various kinds of weapons (News-Urdu: 12 April, 1987).

Hilmand

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen destroyed a Soviet-made helicopter near Nad-e-Ali town, 15 kilometres west of provincial headquarters Lashkargah, on April 12. The helicopter was part of a Soviet-Kabul force which attacked a 'Mujahideen centre' in that area. About 50 Afghan government troops were captured during the fighting. Mujahideen also seized a heavy machine gun, a rocket launcher, and some other arms and ammunition.

Another report said that Mujahideen attacked a security post near Grishikh town on Qandahar-Herat highway. In the course of the fighting 8 Afghan government troops were killed. Mujahideen destroyed the building and captured a quantity of arms and ammunition.

VOIR: Fifty Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured in an attack on their posts in Lashkargah area of Hilmand province earlier this month (21 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Mujahideen inflicted heavy losses in men and materials on the Soviet-Kabul troops in an attack on enemy positions in Yakhshal area of Hilmand province. Fighting between the Muslim freedom-fighters and the communist troops is continuing in Hilmand province (News-Pushto: 5 April, 1987).

While continuing their activities in Afghanistan, the Mujahideen have shot down a helicopter in Nad-e-Ali town in Hilmand province. They have also destroyed two tanks. Mujahideen also captured 48 communist troops (26 April, 1987).

*Dates given in parenthesis in section 3 are of the actual broadcast.

Radio Bangladesh: There are reports that Afghan Mujahideen had killed about 1,000 Soviet and Afghan soldiers during fierce fighting in Hilmand province last month. Mujahideen also destroyed some Soviet tanks and military vehicles with rocket attacks on Hilmand airport (News-Urdu: 2 April, 1987).

VOG: According to news reports from the Afghan capital anti-communist rebels have killed 15 people and wounded 35 others in a rocket attack in the South Western province of Hilmand. The country's official news agency accused the rebels of taking advantage of the government's proclaimed ceasefire (News-English: 20 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The anti-revolutionary terrorist elements have fired ground-to-ground missiles in Sarband area of Druz (ph) Ulaswali in Hilmand province. Several innocent citizens were injured and houses damaged. Moreover, a mosque was also damaged and several copies of the Holy Quran ruthlessly burnt (News-Pushto: 14 April, 1987).

Qandahar

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen ambush a Soviet-Kabul military convoy, heading towards Panjwee, in Salyan area. The convoy was totally destroyed.

23 March: Mujahideen ambush and destroyed a Soviet-Kabul military vehicle of a mobile force in Panjwee area.

24 March: Four helicopters shot down near Qandahar city.

25 March: Mujahideen attack a military camp in Dand area. Sixteen Soviet-Kabul troops killed or injured. Two armoured vehicles were destroyed by rocket fire.

27 March: Fierce fighting takes place in Spinbuldak subdivision on Pak-Afghan border. This followed a Soviet-Kabul attack on Mujahideen 'centre' in Shin Nari area. Invading troops used armoured vehicles and helicopters. Soviet-Kabul forces had to beat retreat after losing several lives.

28 March: Mujahideen attack a military convoy in Arghandab town. Two vehicles destroyed.

29 March: A Soviet transport plane shot down in Qandahar. Mujahideen killed a 'military officer' in Herat bazar of Qandahar city.

2 April: Soviet-Kabul authorities try to plug routes to and from Qandahar city by moving in large numbers of troops and vehicles, as well as, helicopters. A daring Mujahideen commander (Captain Abdul Hai) who was driving a motor cycle into the city was killed by fire from two security posts (believed to be manned by Russians).

4 April: Mujahideen organise attacks on Soviet-Kabul security posts from which fire had come on (deceased Captain Abdul Hai).

The posts were "eliminated along with their occupants".

5 April: Mujahideen conduct a major attack on Qandahar district jail. The 'northern gate' of the jail was destroyed with rockets. A number of Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed. Twenty-four Mujahideen imprisoned in the jail were freed.

5 April: Mujahideen hit an army jeep with rockets near Eidgah Gate in Qandahar city.

7 April: Mujahideen attack a security post in Walqan area in Panjwee subdivision with rockets. An armoured vehicle destroyed.

7 April: Mujahideen attack "another" security post. In exchange of fire one Mujahid killed and 4 injured.

10 April: Mujahideen attack two security posts near Sargara (in the vicinity of Spinbuldak on Afghan-Pakistan border). A tank, a truck and 4 bunkers were destroyed and 13 enemy troops killed.

13 April: Mujahideen shoot down an aircraft in Panjwai area, south of Qandahar city. The plane which was bombing the rural areas was hit with a missile. In the wreckage Mujahideen discovered the deadbody of a Russian pilot.

15 April: Mujahideen shoot down one of a squadron of four planes bombarding a Mujahideen centre near Arghandab town, north-west of Qandahar city.

16 April: Mujahideen attack a military post (manned by Russians) at a place 10 kilometres from Qandahar city. Sixteen Russians were killed. Mujahideen lost 2 fighters.

19 April: Mujahideen attack another 'Soviet Army camp' (name of place not mentioned). Three army vehicles were destroyed and a number of Soviets killed. Mujahideen had launched the attack in collaboration with sympathetic Afghan government soldiers.

VOIR: Four Afghan soldiers surrendered to the Muslim Mujahideen on Hamal 8th. They defected to the Mujahideen from a security post in Mohallajat area (News-Pushto: 5 April, 1987).

Thirty-five communists were killed or injured in a combat between the Afghan Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul troops in Deh area of Qandahar. In retaliation, the Afghan troops subjected Deh to mortar fire killing 30 civilians including women and children.

Another report said that the Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a military post of Soviet-Kabul troops in Arghandab Woleswali of Qandahar province a few days ago. Thirteen Afghan troops were killed and 10 captured. Besides, a Soviet tank, two transport trucks and an ammunition depot were destroyed.

In yet another combat in Dand area, 16 Kabul troops were killed or injured while heavy losses were inflicted on their military equipment

(News-Persian: 12 April, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen launched a missile attack on a military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Spin Buldak area on the 21st of Hamal as a result of which 13 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and two tanks destroyed (21 April, 1987).

The Muslim Freedom Fighters attacked the Qandahar airport. A MiG fighter and a helicopter were damaged during the attack (News-Pushto: 26 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Eleven Kabul Government troops deserted their units and reached Pakistan in Baluchistan province (News-Urdu: 1 April, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen attacked a military post of Soviet-Kabul troops in Arghandab area of Qandahar province a few days ago, killing 13 troops and capturing 10 others (News-Persian: 11 April, 1987).

In another attack on the Qandahar-Kabul highway near Qandahar city, 14 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a huge quantity of military equipment destroyed.

A military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops was attacked by the Mujahideen in Panjwin area as a result of which 4 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and many others injured (News-Persian: 17 April, 1987).

Responding to Mujahideen attacks on their positions in Qandahar province, the communist forces bombarded the residential areas. A number of houses were destroyed and a large number of civilians were martyred (17 April, 1987).

The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a jail in Qandahar city early this month. Besides killing 8 communist troops, they destroyed part of the prison building and freed a number of Mujahideen. In other attacks on security posts they killed 9 communist troops and destroyed a tank. In addition to this all troops travelling in an army vehicle were killed in Qandahar city (News-Urdu: 19 April, 1987).

Radio Bangladesh: Reports said Afghan government soldiers were deserting their units and seeking political asylum in Pakistan. They are also joining the ranks of the Mujahideen (News-Urdu: 6 April, 1987).

Mujahideen shot down a Soviet MiG aircraft in Qandahar on the 12th of this month (News-Urdu: 24 April, 1987).

BBC: A bloody clash was reported between Mujahideen and Afghan Militia in Qandahar province. The Mujahideen captured 5 militiamen and killed them in retaliation for the killing of their supporters in Qandahar city by Militiamen (Current Affairs: 24 April, 1987).

VOA: Diplomats report that Soviet-led forces are bracing up for possible rebel offensive against Kabul and the southern city of Qanda-

har. In the south, they say, the rebels have been shelling Qandahar regularly. They said that government troops have been reinforced with thousand of troops. Soviet-led forces have also bombed nearby villages where they believed the Mujahideen have support (News-English: 8 April, 1987).

VOG: Afghan resistance fighters have shot down 14 Soviet planes in the last 10 days, Western diplomats reported in Islamabad. At the same time fighting intensified in the provinces of Qandahar, Logar, Paktiya and Ningarhar last week. At least 3 Soviet transport planes a day were landing in Kabul. Nothing was known about their cargo. The diplomats attribute resistance fighters' recent successes mainly to 150 Stinger rockets supplies a short while ago by Washington (News-English: 1 April, 1987).

Radio Beijing: Quoting Azad Afghan Press, our correspondent has reported from Islamabad that the Afghan Mujahideen shot down one Soviet MiG jet fighter in Chahar Bagh near Qandahar city on 20th April. All the crew on board were killed. The Mujahideen killed 50 to 60 Soviet-Kabul troops on 8th April. The Afghan Freedom Fighter also shot down a helicopter in that area (News-Urdu: 24 April, 1987).

Zabul

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen downed a Soviet-Kabul helicopter in Shaiei, Zabul, on 23 March.

Mujahideen intercepted a military convoy at Apu. Two tanks were blasted by rocket fire. Mujahideen retreated on the arrival on the scene of aeroplane.

According to another report Mujahideen attacked a security post near Qalat Ghilzai, headquarters of the Zabul province. Twelve troops were killed or wounded and a tank destroyed.

Ghazni

Mujahideen Sources: On the morning of 17 March, Mujahideen attacked a power house supplying electricity to Ghazni city. Diesel generators of the power house were destroyed and consequently the city was plunged in darkness.

On 3 April, Mujahideen killed 20 regime soldiers during an attack on the district headquarters of Qarabagh.

On 4 April, Mujahideen attacked an army camp in Maqar town on the Kabul-Qandahar Highway. Fourteen 'Soviets' were killed and 2 tanks and an armoured vehicles destroyed.

In retaliation, Soviet-Kabul forces attacked Mujahideen positions on 6 April. Soviet-Kabul troops encountered stiff resistance. Two

helicopters and one jet fighter were shot down. Two trucks, one oil tanker and 20 soldiers were captured. Four Mujahideen were also killed.

On 8 April, Mujahideen using missiles downed two aeroplanes during a Soviet-Kabul strike on one of their strongholds near Ramak town, 15 kilometres NW of Ghazni city.

VOIR: Two helicopters of the communist regime were shot down by the Muslim Freedom Fighters in Ghazni province on the 6th of the current month. The pilots were killed (news -Pushto: 15 April, 1987).

In another attack on a security post in Karabagh area of Ghazni province on 21st April, the Mujahideen succeeded in getting control of the post. They killed several of the communist troops and arrested many others. They also captured various kinds of arms (News-Pushto: 17 April, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen attacked a military convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Pule-Alam area on Kabul-Gardez Highway in the middle of Hamal as a result of which 14 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 8 Soviet tanks were destroyed. The convoy had to retreat to Kabul (19 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Mujahideen shot down two helicopters of Communist forces in Ghazni province (News-Urdu: 13 April, 1987).

Mujahideen attacked a Soviet-Kabul post in Ghazni killing 9 communist troops. One tank was destroyed.

BBC: Guerillas claimed that when helicopters landed in Ghazni area close to guerilla bases to lift their dead and wounded the Mujahideen fired ground-to-ground missiles smashing (a number of) them (26 April, 1987).

VOA: Western diplomats sources in Pakistan say that Afghan Mujahideen killed 25 Afghan soldiers in fighting in Ghazni province last week. Eighty Mujahideen were also said to have been killed or wounded.

Paktika

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen attacked a military camp at Zama, near Urgoon town, on 14 April, killing and wounding a number of troops. A day earlier, a Soviet-made tank had been disabled by landmines planted by Mujahideen in the same area.

Meanwhile, reports indicated heavy concentration of Soviet-Kabul troops in and around Urgoon cantonment. Reports said about 10,000 troops had been drawn from places as far as Kabul, Ghazni and Gardez and deployed in this area. There were speculations that the Soviets planned to attack Mujahideen centres at and near Zawar, where in offensive action they had suffered heavy losses last year. Likewise,

infiltration of agents/saboteurs into adjacent Pakistani territories of Waziristan have also been reported through this frontier area.

A message received on 20 April said that 120 Kabul government groups taken prisoners by Mujahideen during Soviet-Kabul offensive on the Zawar Front last year had been released and that they had joined the Mujahideen resistance movement in Pakistan. A resistance commander said that in all 136 prisoners had been released in the presence of the International Red Cross. One hundred and twenty decided to stay back with the Mujahideen after their release. Sixteen showed inability to join the resistance movement on the grounds of ill health.

Paktiya

Mujahideen Sources: 17 March: Mujahideen shot down two Soviet-made helicopters in Ali Khel area.

23 March: Two helicopters brought down in Khost and Gardez.

26 March: Two jets gunned down in Zazi Maidan.

28 March: A helicopter shot down in Khost.

30 March: A Soviet-made jet was shot down as it was bombing Mujahideen positions in Jehadwal, about 10 km from Pakistani border on March 30. The wreckage fell in the vicinity of Khost.

April 10: An aircraft was shot down in Zazi Maidan.

On April 12, Mujahideen hit Soviet brigade headquarters located in Ahmed Khel subdivision. Four barracks were destroyed by mortar shelling. Mujahideen also attacked security posts in Koshi and Sra-e-Ghundi area. Here 15 soldiers were killed and a tank destroyed.

Mujahideen fired missiles on Gardez, the provincial headquarters of Paktiya, on April 14. A number of military installations and official buildings were damaged.

On April 15, eight Soviet-Kabul jets dropped 50 bombs of 1000 pounds each on Mujahideen positions in Jehadwal. One of the jets was shot down.

On April 16, five jets dropped bombs on Jehadwal centre. The Mujahideen, using anti-aircraft gun, brought down another jet.

A MiG was hit and destroyed in Mani Kandao area on April 20.

VOIR: Muslim Mujahideen killed several communist troops and set on fire one tank and 3 armoured vehicles in Paktiya province on 22nd of Hamal (22 April, 1987).

Muslim Mujahideen shot down an aircraft of Kabul regime in Paktiya province. The aircraft was hit by missile (22 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Freedom Fighters in Paktiya province shot down an aircraft and a helicopter (1 April, 1987).

Muslim revolutionaries downed a Kabul regime plane by anti-

aircraft gun fire 10 kilometres from Pakistan border in Paktiya province on Thursday last (6 April, 1987).

The Afghan Muslim Freedom Fighters killed 200 troops of the Kabul government in Paktiya province. The Freedom fighters have expanded their activities in recent weeks. The Mujahideen claimed that one aircraft and 4 helicopters were shot down in various parts of Afghanistan during the last some weeks (15 April, 1987).

Reuter: Afghan anti-aircraft rebels have freed a group of prisoners in the presence of witnesses from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), guerilla sources in Pakistan said today. They said 138 captured Afghan soldiers were freed last Tuesday. No Red Cross confirmation was available today, but ICRC sources in Pakistan unofficially put the number released at 93. The release took place on the border between Pakistan and the South-East Afghan Paktiya province, an area of frequent clashes between government and rebel forces. The rebel and ICRC sources said it was the first time the Red Cross had witnessed such a release ceremony since the guerilla war began more than 8 years ago. The Swiss-based organisation resumed its activities in Kabul in February after a four-week break, saying it would be permitted to visit prisoners and provide aid to the wounded. The released soldiers had been captured by Jalaluddin Haqani, one of the best-known guerilla commanders in the area during fighting in Paktiya last year. A Red Cross doctor examined those prisoners who asked to be seen. The guerilla sources said 16 soldiers decided to stay and join Haqani's Mujahideen fighters. Haqani said he was also holding Afghan pilots and army officers and was prepared to swap them for rebels held by the Soviet-backed Kabul government (Reuter-Islamabad: 11 April, 1987).

BBC: In Geneva, the Red Cross says its representatives in Pakistan have witnessed the release of Afghan troops captured by the guerillas fighting against the pro-Soviet regime. The release took place at the Afghan-Pakistan border on Monday and Tuesday last (News-Urdu: 11 April, 1987).

The Afghan government claims that the Afghan Army has carried out an operation against guerillas near Gardez, the capital of Paktiya province (News-Urdu: 24 April, 1987).

Radio Beijing: Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad say that the Afghan Freedom Fighters killed 200 government troops early this month in Paktiya province (16 April, 1987).

Azad Afghan Press reported yesterday that Afghan Freedom Fighters had shot down 3 Soviet planes from 5th to 10th of April in Paktiya and other provinces (17 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Terrorists fired 13 ground-to-ground US missiles on Gardez city. Four persons, including a woman and 3 children of Maqsood Colony were killed and 3 others injured in this barbaric and unislamic act. Several houses of the colony were damaged. Similarly in another incident in Said Karam area of Paktiya province a bus hit a mine planted by the saboteurs. Thirteen passengers were injured (News-Pushto: 16 April, 1987).

A group of counter-revolutionary elements which was engaged in subversive activities in Gardez city of Paktiya province was crushed recently with the assistance of the local people (News-Urdu: 24 April, 1987).

Radio Moscow: More than 1,600 refugees have returned to Paktiya province from abroad during the last three months. Negotiations with 8 armed groups on ending armed activities were also successfully concluded (3 April, 1987).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen Sources: Since the declaration of the so-called unilateral 'National Reconciliation' by the Kabul regime, the Soviet-Kabul forces had been establishing new security posts at various points in Ningarhar province. An underground 'military base' was being built near Dacca town, 12 kilometres from Pak-Afghan border. The posts lately established or reoccupied in or around Ningarhar were:

- Security posts of Greg, Bangab, Amir Chundai and Camberi in Lower Kunar.
- Post of Kama Daka, Asmani, Hazar Nau, Kaga Kamar, Auku, Ziga and Bati in Momandara.
- Posts of Lower Kashkol, Zeri Baba.
- The posts of Kawir, Mohammad Jan Machine, Akhundzada and Khyber Kali in Central Kunar.

23 March: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul positions in Mohmandara area (near Pak Border). The Torkham-Jalalabad road which passes through this area remained closed to traffic for 9 hours. Soviet-Kabul troops suffered 'heavy' casualties.

25 March: A MI-25 helicopter shot down in Jalalabad.

4 April: Three helicopters shot down in surkhrud area.

6 April: Mujahideen shell Soviet-Kabul positions in Kaga Kama.

9 April: Two Soviet-Kabul aircraft shot down in Khugiani 1 fighter and one helicopter.

12 April: A large Soviet-Kabul force arrived in Khugiani district. Paratroop land in Wazir, Kaga, Melma, Tangi and Marikhel areas. Mujahideen positions in the district bombarded aurally.

(The Soviet-Kabul mobile force remain in Khugiani for about a week, before proceeding towards Shinwar to attack Mujahideen positions in Shinwar).

16 April: Mujahideen capture 18 mules loaded with weapons near village Gardi Ghaus in Momandara.

17, 18, 19 April: Soviet-made planes bombard 'Zafar centre' of Mujahideen.

18 April: A large 'Russian' force appears beofe Tokhane.

19 April: Soviet-Kabul troops launch a sizeable offensive against a Mujahideen 'centre' in Chinari/Sarobi area. They were compelled to retreat, leaving behind 6 machine guns 10 rocket launchers, 188 Klashnikovs rifles among other things.

21 April: The "Russians" launch a 'big' offensive in Nazian district. Hundreds of Mujahideen were called in from other areas to help resist. Eight Soviet-Kabul tanks were destroyed.

22 April: Forty-five 'Russian' army-officers and men were killed—20 in the region of Ghazgai and 25 "around Zafar (Muj) Brigade". Fighting was continuing (when the report was despatched).

23 April: Sixteen 'Russian soldiers' (including a high ranking officer named alexander Alekchov) were killed in the region of Ghazgai alongwith some "Parchamites". Mujahideen capture 3 Soviet-Kabul posts. Two Mi-24 helicopters providing cover to the invading troops were shot down. The Soviet-Kabul offensive was repulsed.

VOIR: The Afghan Muslim Freedom Fighters shot down 2 Soviet-Kabul aircraft in Ningarhar (17 April, 1987).

Muslim Afghan revolutionaries foiled large scale attacks on Communist forces in the area of Nazian in Ningarhar province and the aggressing forces were compelled to retreat leaving behind tens of killed and wounded. Soviet-Kabul forces also lost 4 aircraft and helicopters and several tanks (26 April, 1987).

BBC: The Afghan Mujahideen claim to have shot down two government helicopters in an encounter in Ningarhar province (26 April, 1987).

VOA: An Afghan resistance group says its forces have downed 2 Soviet-made helicopters in eastern Afghanistan, killing the 8 crew members on board. Mujahideen sources said that the aircrafts were attacked with missiles as they approached the Jalalabad region where an Afghan government helicopter had crashed earlier (News-English: 7 April, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen say that after a hand-to-hand overnight fighting on Thursday near a centre of Afghan Mujahideen called Maro in Eastern Afghanistan, they forced the Soviet-Afghan advancing troops

to retreat. Mujahideen said that at least 23 of the attackers were killed, including 8 Soviet soldiers. Seven military vehicles were destroyed. Twelve people from Mujahideen side were also killed or wounded (News-Urdu: 25 April, 1987).

Radio Beijing: According to Afghan resistance sources the Freedom Fighters have shot down 2 helicopters with rockets in Ningarhar province (News-Urdu: 9 Arpil, 1987).

AIR: The Times of India has reported that Soviet and Afghan troops are advancing towards Pak-Afghan border where they intend to attack the guerilla bases (Jahan Numa-Urdu: 3 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Another 23 families comprising 228 compatriots living miserable life in Pakistan and Iran returned to Farah, Khost and Ningarhar provinces (24 April, 1987).

Kunar

Mujahideen Sources: Two Mi-25 helicopter gunships were shot down over Sukarek, Kunar, on March 23. On March 27, Mujahideen destroyed two vehicles of a mobile military force in the same area. A helicopter was shot down in Asmar, Kunar on March 28.

On April 4, Mujahideen launched a missile attack on Sarkani town, a subdivisional headquarter, demolishing a number of army barracks. On the following day (April 5) they fired rockets at Narang, blowing up a tank. Even as the Mujahideen operation was in progress, Soviet-Kabul aircraft attacked Mujahideen positions.

On April 10, a large Soviet-Kabul force reached Chaghasarai with the intention of "eliminating" Mujahideen strong points in Kunar. The attack was led by 10 jet fighters and helicopters which pounded Mujahideen positions. On ground Soviet-Kabul shelled Mujahideen with BM-21s, BM-13s and other heavy weapons.

Mujahideen hit Soviet-Kabul posts and concentrations in Changhani Chudai, Tisha and Salarbagh with BM rockets and 122mm guns.

At least 30 Mujahideen (along with women, children, and old men) were killed. On the Soviet-Kabul side 8 tanks and 6 other vehicles were destroyed and 40 soldiers killed.

The Soviet-Kabul mobile force succeeded in reaching the besieged Asmar cantonment in Upper Kunar on April 22. Mujahideen and the Soviet-Kabul troops were involved in a big battle when last reports came in. In the meantime 18 Afghan government soldiers had defected to Mujahideen.

VOIR: The Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a convoy of Soviet-Kabul troops heading toward Kunar from Jalalabad recently.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Soviet-Kabul troops. Four Soviet tanks were destroyed (10 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Muslim Freedom Fighters shot down an aircraft and a helicopter in Paktiya and Kunar provinces (1 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The counter-revolutionaries fired several surface-to-surface missiles on the Takani (ph) Ulaswali of Kunar province which resulted in damage to Bakramkhel Mosque and other buildings. The criminals used US-made missiles in this attack. They launched the attack at a time when our toiling countrymen were making preparations for the month of Ramazan (News-Pushto: 28 April, 1987).

Provinces Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen Sources: 13 April; A tank hit by R-82 gun shell and destroyed in Kisham a subdivision.

16 April: two tanks of a mobile force blown up with landmines (somewhere in Badakhshan).

20 April: Soviet-Kabul troops attack a Mujahideen 'centre' at Genes in Kisham subdivision. In two hours fighting 12 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed.

22 April: Mujahideen conduct a 'counter-offensive' and push back the invading forces, killing in the process 30 Afghan government ('puppet') troops.

Radio Teheran: Islamic Mujahideen attacked 3 security posts of the Soviet-Kabul sources in Darwazah area of Badakhshan province and killed 20 of enemy troops. They fired a missile at the building of the Ruling Party in the same area and killed 9 Party members (News-Urdu: 1 April, 1987).

Takhar

Mujahideen Sources: Fierce fighting was reported between Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul forces in Takhar province on March 23 and 25. A Soviet aircraft was shot down and a truck and some APCs were destroyed. Twenty government soldiers and 7 Mujahideen were killed.

A report received on April 9 stated that the Soviets were continuing with 'retaliatory' operations launched after Mujahideen attacked Soviet "occupied" Tajikistan (in February). These reports said that Soviet paratroopers had surrounded Yangi Qila, Dakad, Kalafgan and Qarya Tappa area of Takhar and that bloody clashes had taken place.

In Yangi Qila subdivision 42 'puppet' troops were killed against 16 Mujahideen and 15 'unarmed civilians'.

Mujahideen had captured 70 troops along with their arms during an operation in Dasht-e-Qila area. Eight Afghan troops were killed at this place.

Mujahideen attacked military installations and official buildings in Taqlan, headquarters of Takhar province, according to another report.

A later message said that Mujahideen had ambushed a military convoy near the town of Archi, killing 8 Soviet troops. Two Mujahideen were also killed in the encounter. The next day a jeep was blown up with a landmine.

Other unconfirmed reports said that:

The Governor of Takhar (name not mentioned) had joined the Mujahideen along with 300 Afghan troops as a protest against Soviet 'retaliatory action' following Mujahideen raids across the Amu river into Tajikistan.

Commander Ahmad Shah Masood (of Punjshir fame) was leading Mujahideen in the Northern Provinces bordering on the Soviet Union.

VOIR: Fierce clashes took place between Soviet-Kabul troops and Muslim Freedom Fighters in the outskirts of Taluqan city on the 3rd of Hamal. The clashes continued for 3 days. One hundred enemy troops were killed and a large number of others injured. Fifteen Afghan Militiamen surrendered to the Mujahideen with their arms. The Mujahideen of Takhar province also shot down a Soviet fighter plane. Seven Mujahideen were martyred and 11 others injured (5 April, 1987).

A heavy attack of Soviet-Kabul troops on the bases of Muslim Mujahideen was foiled by the Freedom Fighters in Takhar province in the beginning of the current month. Sixty communist troops were killed or wounded. The Mujahideen also shot down a fighter aircraft and destroyed a tank of the enemy (15 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: A combined force of Soviet-Kabul troops attacked the positions of Afghan Mujahideen in Takhar province, but had to retreat after suffering defeat. They lost 30 troops in killed or wounded. The Mujahideen also shot down an aircraft and burnt many armoured vehicles (13 April, 1987).

Radio Beijing: It was reported that after retaliatory bombing by the Soviet-Kabul forces in Northern provinces of Kunduz and Takhar, the Afghan guerillas have escalated their operations in various provinces and cut off the gas pipe-line running into the Soviet border (News-Urdu: 16 April, 1987).

According to another report, earlier this month, the Afghan

guerillas attacked the enemy's command office and military installations and buildings in Dargan (ph) area of Takhar province, adjoining Soviet border, and killed or wounded 50 Soviet-Kabul troops. Earlier from 28th March to 2nd April, the Soviet troops made a big attack on the guerillas, but faced strong resistance. Two hundred and fifty Soviet troops were killed or wounded and 31 tanks and vehicles were destroyed (News-Urdu: 17 April, 1987).

Radio Moscow: Last month, 113 armed bandits surrendered in Takhar province (News-Pushto: 5 April, 1987).

Kunduz

Mujahideen Sources: In March the Mujahideen carried out two outstanding raids into the Soviet Union. In retaliation, Soviet aircraft bombarded Taluqan in Takhar and Imam Sahib in Kunduz province. As a result, 30 Mujahideen and 130 civilians were killed and wounded.

A Soviet tank, an armoured vehicle and 3 other vehicles were destroyed on March 21. On March 26 Mujahideen attacked security posts protecting the subdivisional headquarter of Aliabad. Seven Afghan troops were killed. The Mujahideen captured 4 "Soviet troops" in this operation.

Mujahideen raided Soviet-Kabul security posts near Khanabad, east of Kunduz city, on April 9. Several Afghan government troops, including an officer of KHAD, were killed and injured.

VOIR: In its issue of Thursday last, the publicity organ of the Soviet Armed forces, the daily 'Red Star' reported that in joint operations by the Soviet-Kabul troops in Kunduz province 300 persons were killed and 600 others injured. The 'Red Star' said that the operation was carried out in retaliation of the attack launched by the Afghan Mujahideen inside the Soviet territory. A day earlier to the report of 'Red Star', the PRAVDA had said that the Afghan Mujahideen had attacked Pianch (Ph) village in Tajikistan Republic of the Soviet Union.

The daily 'Red Star' also reported that during the operation 136 inhabitants of Kunduz province were arrested by Soviet troops. In a report the Afghan Press Agency stated that 3,000 Soviet troops had entered Afghanistan from Tajikistan and they were deployed in Kunduz and Takhar provinces.

According to a report, the Afghan Mujahideen launched attacks on three military posts of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Darwaz Uleswali of Badakhshan province early this month. In the attack, 30 enemy troops were killed while 11 others were made captive by the Mujahideen. A number of arms were also captured (News-Persian: 8 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Communist jets bombarded villages in Kunduz and Takhar provinces (News-Urdu: 15 April, 1987).

BBC: After the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, the Soviet Union has for the first time reported that the Afghan guerillas fighting against its troops have carried out attacks in the Central Asian Region of the Soviet Union across the Afghan border.

The Soviet news agency TASS said that two weeks ago the Afghan resistance groups raided a village at night in the Central Asia Soviet Republic of Tajikistan. Two border guards of the Soviet Union were killed in these attacks. The Soviet news agency did not give the number of the Afghan guerillas. It, however, did say that after suffering heavy casualties they fled to Kunduz, the northern province of Afghanistan across the river Amu.

David Bradshaw review: This attack by the guerillas inside the Soviet Union has taken place just one month after an earlier missile attack by the Afghan guerillas. At that time the Afghan Mujahideen had fired ground-to-ground missiles inside the Soviet territory. One Soviet citizen was killed and 2 were injured (21 April, 1987).

VOG: Western diplomats in New Delhi said fierce clashes had taken place in Kunduz and Takhar provinces in the north and north-western provinces. Diplomats said a number of civilians had been killed in Soviet air strikes on several villages. The Soviet and Afghan government forces are said to have suffered heavy casualties. The guerillas are reported to have downed several Soviet planes. Reports from Delhi say that three Soviet officers failed in an attempt to defect across the border into Pakistan recently (News-English: 14 April, 1987).

Radio Moscow: In retaliation, Soviet-Kabul troops mounted an attack on counter-revolutionary groups in Kunduz province. The activities of the counter-revolutionary groups against the Soviet Union are in the interest of those forces which are opposing political solution of the Afghanistan problem and among these forces the United States is the foremost (News-Urdu: 2 April, 1987).

Baghlan

Mujahideen Sources: 20-21 March: Mujahideen attack security posts of Shahsh Sad Kote near Pul-e-Khumri.

28 March: Soviet-Kabul forces launched a powerful offensive against Mujahideen in the industrial area of the provincial headquarter of Baghlan city. Armoured units under the cover of aircraft besieged Mujahideen between "Shehre Nau and the Sugar Refinery": but, the Mujahideen broke out. During fierce fighting which lasted 6 days the

following losses were recorded:

Soviet-Kabul Losses:

1. Thirty-one tanks and APCs destroyed either by RPG fire or landmines.
2. More than 300 "puppet" and Soviet troops killed and wounded.
3. Twenty AK-47s captured by Mujahideen.

Mujahideen Losses:

1. Thirty-five Mujahideen killed.
2. Twenty civilians killed.
3. Twenty-nine mujahideen captured.
4. Forty-eight Mujahideen injured.
5. Sixty weapons of different kinds and some ammunition lost to enemy.
6. A large number of houses and gardens destroyed and crops set on fire by the invading force.

On March 31, Mujahideen attacked a convoy near Pule Khumri town on the Salang Highway. Eight Soviet troops were killed. During this operation 35 young men forcibly enlisted for Army service were freed.

On April 2, Mujahideen wiped out 5 security posts (location not mentioned).

Between April 9 and 20, Mujahideen carried out a number of guerilla actions against security posts of Qaul Khaidak, Qarya Khalba and Qarya Akhtar. In these operations, 15 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed while 4 tanks and 3 bulldozers were destroyed and two vehicles loaded with arms and ammunition were captured by Mujahideen.

BBC: A commander of Afghan Mujahideen in northern Afghanistan says that Soviet-Afghan forces continued their attacks for 6 days on Mujahideen strongholds close to Baghlan city three weeks ago. Both sides suffered heavy losses in men and materials.

George Arney reports from Islamabad:

Reporting Soviet-Afghan attack, maulvi Shams of Jamiat-e-Islami of Professor Rabbani Group said that Soviet-Afghan forces launched attacks on March 28 and these attacks continued for 6 days...Mujahideen claim that Soviet-Afghan troops sustained higher losses and over 300 of them, including militiamen, were killed. More than 40 tanks were also destroyed. As the fighting took place in the plain area in northern Baghlan, civilians were also killed in the fighting. Baghlan city is situated 130 miles off Kabul on the North-Western highway between the Soviet Union and Kabul. Mujahideen claim that a military post of Soviet Union was hit by missiles in the south of Baghlan in Talla Ghar

(ph), two weeks ago. (Current Affairs-Pushto: 14 April, 1987).

Samangan

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen frustrated a Soviet-Kabul bid to set up a security post in the Hazrat Sultan subdivision, 20 kilometres NW of the provincial headquarters of Samangan, on March 15. During the fighting Soviet-Kabul force lost a tank and another vehicle. In the Hazrat Sultan city itself the Mujahideen attacked and destroyed a KHAD office a day earlier (March 14).

Balkh

Mujahideen Sources: A Mujahideen commander who arrived in Pakistan on March 5 described the situation in Balkh as follows:

On February 26, Mujahideen attacked security posts in Charbulak. Two posts were captured.

On February 29, Mujahideen attacked security posts guarding gas pipeline near Chamtal. Pipeline was blasted and several guards killed. Gas leaking from the pipeline continued burning for 3 days.

Since the declaration of the so-called 'national Reconciliation', the Kabul regime has severely restricted transportation of foodstuff and consumer goods to the Mujahideen controlled areas. Seven kilograms of wheat sells for Afghanis 400, seven kilograms of rice for Afghanis 659 and seven kilograms of potatoes for Afghanis 200. There is a widespread shortage of food in the province.

Later reports said:

4 March: Mujahideen damaged a security post 16 kilometres from Mazar Sharif. Several 'Soviet' troops were killed or injured. A Mujahid was also killed.

10 March: Mujahideen killed 7 militiamen in an ambush on a Soviet-Kabul 'searching unit' near Chamtal.

14 March: A helicopter shot down in Mazar Sharif.

15 March: A jet shot down in Sholgar district.

Radio Teheran: Two MiG aircraft collided and were destroyed in mid-air in the north of Mazar-i-Sharif, Balkh province, last Friday (News-Pushto: 29 April, 1987).

Jozjan

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen dynamited the gas-line carrying Afghan natural gas to the Soviet Union on March 19 at Qulfat Bandar near Qarqeen town, 66 kilometres north of Shibberghan, the provincial headquarters. Eight soldiers were killed during the attack. Mujahideen seized a machinegun, two wireless sets and 5 rifles.

Mujahideen fought attacking Soviet-Kabul troops at Ajram village in Sar-e-Pul district on March 26. Six regime soldiers killed.

Radio Kabul: Three other armed groups based in Jozjan province joined the National Reconciliation Programme after laying down their arms before the authorities (News-Urdu: 6 April, 1987).

Radio Moscow: A group of refugees returned to Jozjan province yesterday. Relief goods were supplied to them by the authorities... Reports say Pakistani and Iranian authorities are blockading the routes to Afghanistan and are planting mines on all routes (of the refugees). The process of return of refugees is however continuing (5 April, 1987).

Faryab

Mujahideen Sources: 11 March: Mujahideen attack and captured several Soviet-Kabul posts in and around Faryab city. A quantity of arms, ammunition and other goods were seized from these posts.

17 March: Mujahideen attacked a 'Russian' force near Shah Mardan in Andkhai district. In the fighting that continued between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mujahideen destroyed 4 tanks and two other vehicles with rocket launchers and killed 10 'Russians'. Fifteen Mujahideen including their commander were also killed.

19 March: Mujahideen capture 3 high-ranking officers of Kabul regime in broad daylight sloop at Ganj Market in the heart of Faryab city. These officers had belonged to the 'National Reconciliation' Commission. They were handed over to the Judicial Committee of Mujahideen for Faryab province.

Radio Teheran: In Faryab province, the Afghan Mujahideen shot down the Communist planes, foiled enemy attack on their strongholds, killed or wounded more than 80 communist troops and captured 8 military posts of government troops (9 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The counter-revolutionary extremists committed another bloody crime against our innocent people... On Tuesday and Monday these treacherous elements fired 18 shells and 38 missiles on the houses of our compatriots in Maimana city. As a result of this inhuman act 9 persons including 2 children were martyred and 15 others were seriously injured. Four houses were destroyed. The noble people of Maimana city have strongly condemned this bloody inhuman act which has been carried out at the instructions of the ring leaders of the extremist groups in Pakistan (News-Pushto: 29 April, 1987).

Badghis

Mujahideen Sources: 22 March: Mujahideen hit security posts in Bala Murghab town, 116 kilometres North of Qila Nau, the provincial

headquarter. Eleven Soviet troops were killed against the loss of 7 Mujahideen. Four security posts were destroyed: and 200 Afghan government soldiers joined Mujahideen.

27 March: Mujahideen attack security post in the subdivisional town of Qadis. Soviet-Kabul lost 5 and Mujahideen 2 fighters.

28 March: Soviet planes strafed rural areas in the neighbourhood of Ghawr Mach town. Twelve houses were demolished and several cattleheads perished.

In the same area Mujahideen attacked a Soviet convoy heading towards Qila Nau in the same area. The convoy suffered some casualties.

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Mujahideen have broken the siege of the Soviet-Kabul troops around their positions in Afghanistan. In the activities which took place in Badghis province, 56 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 14 others injured. Fifteen soldiers of the Kabul regime joined the ranks of the Mujahideen along with their arms and ammunition (News-Persian: 25 April, 1987).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen Sources: 23 March: Soviet-Kabul forces move out and in simultaneously to besiege Karta and Dash-e-Ali (suburbs of Herat city) where they suspected Mujahideen were strong. Six Soviet-Kabul troops killed and 40 wounded.

24 March: Soviet-Kabul troops attack western parts of Enjeel district. Mujahideen in a counter-offensive destroyed some 'fighting vehicles' and killed 40 soldiers.

A group of "KHAD members" captures 6 Mujahideen bring a surprise attack, but Mujahideen were later able to secure their release.

30 March: Ahmed Shah, a Kabul government militia commander defects and joins Mujahideen along with 40 other armed men at village Jam in Enjeel district.

A large Soviet-Kabul force supported by armoured units and gunship helicopters, attacked the "western parts" of Herat city on April 2. Their objective seemed to be eject Mujahideen from this part of the city. Mujahideen from within the "security belt" laid round the city and from without battled with the invading force. Fighting for the control of this part of Herat was continuing on April 21. In the meantime, the Mujahideen had destroyed 7 tanks and APCs. Both sides suffered casualties.

VOIR: According to reports from Afghanistan, a series of combats took place between the Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul troops at

various places in Herat province during the last month. In the fighting, which continued, heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Kidle Islam area of Kohistan Wolesswali was liberated from the enemy troops. In the battle a huge quantity of arms were captured by the Mujahideen. The Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 15 others injured. Seven officers and men were captured. Soviet planes bombarded the positions of the Mujahideen thrice in that area.

Another report says that Afghan Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul troops on the Herat-Qandahar Highway. Ten Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and two Soviet tanks destroyed (News-Persian: 6 April, 1987).

Communist forces bombarded several localities of Herat province recently. Mujahideen shot down two aircraft (News-Pushto: 7 April, 1987).

Muslim Mujahideen have destroyed 21 tanks and military vehicles of Communist troops in their attacks on Soviet-Kabul troops early this month, killing or wounding 200 communist troops. During these operations a post of the Communist troops was destroyed and the main pipeline to Shindand airport was blown up. In retaliation, Communist aircraft bombarded three areas of Herat city, in which 5 innocent citizens were martyred. The communist troops attacked Mujahideen positions in Herat province, but were repulsed (News-Pushto: 11 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: Muslim Afghan revolutionaries destroyed 21 tanks and military vehicles of the enemy and killed or injured about 200 occupation troops. The Mujahideen also attacked an air base of occupation forces and blasted an oil pipeline in Herat province (News-Urdu: 6 April, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen sources report that Soviet-Afghan forces had attacked strongholds of Mujahideen in four areas of Herat province, but as a result of brave resistance, government forces were compelled to retreat. ... Reports say that a military commander of Kabul government along with 40 armed men joined the ranks of Mujahideen in Herat province on March 30. The Mujahideen with the cooperation of some officials of Afghanistan government captured 8 military posts (9 April, 1987).

Attempts of Soviet-Kabul troops to seal off western part of Herat city were successfully foiled by Mujahideen. In the fighting that lasted 3 days more than 100 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured. Six Soviet armoured personnel carriers were also destroyed. The Soviet-Kabul forces subjected the Baba Haji area of West Herat city to bombardment and shelling (News-Persian: 18 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: In response to the proclamation of National Reconciliation, 20 families of our compatriots returned to their homes in Herat and Farah provinces from Iran and Pakistan yesterday. They were welcomed by the local party and government officials (News-Pushto: 29 April, 1987).

Farah

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen attacked a Soviet military camp in Farah Rud area on March 22. Two tanks and an armoured vehicle were destroyed by missiles.

On April 2, two helicopters and one fighter aircraft were downed in the vicinity of Shindand.

Radio Teheran: The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries in Farah Province have killed 8 communist troops during clashes on Qandahar-Herat Highway and captured a large quantity of arms and ammunition (News-Urdu: 26 April, 1987).

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan

Nil report from all sources.

Ghor

Nil report from all sources.

Uruzgan

Mujahideen Sources: A Soviet-made helicopter was shot down in Bayzreed, Uruzgan, on April 1.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen Sources: 16 March: A Soviet-made aircraft shot down at Gigdalek, Sarobi district.

20 March: A bomb explodes in Baharistan Cinema, Kabul, while a Russian propaganda film was being screened. The building was heavily damaged. Seven persons killed and 23 injured.

22 March: A bomb explodes in the shop of a "regime supporter" at Kota-e-Sangi. The shop along with some adjoining buildings, was destroyed in a fire which resulted from the explosion. Fifteen persons, including two Russians who were shopping got killed.

22 March: A militiaman killed as he steps on a landmine in village

Estarghich in Qarabagh district.

26 March: A combined Soviet-Kabul military force attacks Mujahideen controlled areas in Qarabagh district. Five Soviet-Kabul tanks were destroyed with RPG fire and 35 soldiers killed. Mujahideen also lost 5 fighters.

30 March: A Mi-17 shot down in Kabul.

Soviet-Kabul forces made another attack on Mujahideen positions in Qarabagh district on April 2. More than 50 government soldiers killed or injured. Four Mujahideen killed and 16 injured. One Mujahid was captured.

A Mi-24 helicopter was shot down in Lalander, South of Kabul on April 3.

Mujahideen killed a KHAD (state secret police) officer in a shoot-out near Blue Mosque in Share Nau, Kabul.

On April 11, Mujahideen ambushed a convoy and destroy several tanks and trucks in Mirbacha Koot district. Soviet-Kabul retaliated with artillery bombardment of the bazaar. A large number of men, women and children were killed or injured. A bus was hit and several of its passengers were killed or wounded.

Mujahideen clashed with Soviet-Kabul forces in Mirbacha Koot district on April 14. In a 3 hour running battle one tank, an APC and two trucks were destroyed. Nine shops were also destroyed.

Anticipating guerilla action on the occasion of "Saur revolution" falling on 27 April Kabul Authorities tightened security measures in and around the Capital. More than 8,000 "puppet" troops were patrolling the city day and night. The Presidential Palace and other important buildings were under the control of special military contingents equipped with "sophisticated weapons" and long-range guns. The areas in which Soviet troops, or other personal, are located were policed by Soviet troops and not by Afghans for lack of confidence in the later.

Over 100 security posts were established around Kabul city and mobile squads (consisting of tanks and other armoured vehicles) were put on roads and approaches to the city.

VOIR: Afghan Mujahideen shot down a government helicopter killing 11 people on board in the west of Kabul city on Saturday last (20 April, 1987).

The Soviet-Kabul troops recently attacked the positions of the Muslim Mujahideen in Sarobi area of Kabul province. The attacking force was compelled to retreat. Scores of enemy troops were killed or injured. Six heavy machine guns, 10 mortars and a number of Klashnikovs were seized by the Mujahideen (26 April, 1987).

BBC: Afghan resistance sources in Islamabad say 35 guerillas were

killed, 39 injured and 30 others have been arrested in 6 days of fighting with Soviet-Afghan troops in the area of Baghlan, north of Kabul. Referring to losses suffered by Soviet-Afghan forces, a Jamiat-e-Islami spokesman said that 100 troops were killed and many tanks were destroyed (News-Urdu: 13 April, 1987).

Security forces in Afghanistan say they have failed a rebels plan to bomb the capital, Kabul, on Monday, the 9th anniversary of the Communist take-over of the country...the Afghan news agency said the government forces raided the area when their preparations were going on and seized an arms cache which included US-made surface-to-surface missiles, allegedly brought into the country through Pakistan (News-English: 29 April, 1987).

VOA: Western diplomats say 70 Soviet soldiers have been killed in an avalanche that buried their mountain base in northern Afghanistan last week. The avalanche wiped out a Soviet garrison guarding a strategic highway north of Kabul (8 April, 1987).

Western diplomats in Pakistan and Afghan resistance groups report increased fighting in Afghanistan in recent weeks. *VOA's* Alan Pessin reports from Islamabad that the fighting intensifies as the weather improves.

The diplomats say government troops in and around the Afghan capital, Kabul, are preparing for a major Mujahideen offensive. They say the same is true in and around Afghanistan's second largest city, Qandahar. There, the diplomats report, the resistance has been shelling the city almost every night. The government troops have reportedly responded by calling in thousands of Soviet reinforcements...In addition, diplomats and resistance sources report, continuing Mujahideen successes at shooting down Soviet and Afghan government military aircraft. The Afghan general incharge of operations in an Eastern province was reported among the victims. He was reportedly killed when a plane he was in was shot down by the Mujahideen (Radio Report: 9 April, 1987).

Radio Bangladesh: Reports reaching Islamabad from Afghanistan say that Mujahideen shot down 14 Soviet MiG aircraft and helicopters during the last 10 days. The reports say that the aircraft were shot down in the north eastern areas of the capital, Kabul, and eastern and southern parts of the country (2 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The Afghan security forces seized a large quantity of arms loaded in a truck which was being brought to Kabul city from the southern parts by the opponent extremists yesterday. These weapons included 26 Klashnikovs of Chinese make, two 303 rifles, 36 kilograms of explosives and 10,000 cartridges of different types (News-Urdu:

23 April, 1987).

Parwan

Mujahideen Sources: 22 March: Mujahideen noted that the 'occupation forces' had used a new and deadlier ground-to-ground missile in the Ibrahim Khan area in Parwan province. The missile was apparently fired from a Soviet Army centre of Qila Surkh. (Distance not mentioned) Twelve houses were put on fire by the missile hit.

28 March: A helicopter bombarding Mujahideen positions near Charikar shot down.

3 April: A jet fighter and 2 helicopters shot down near Bagram.

4-7 April: Mujahideen attack security posts in Kohistan area killing 8 Kabul government soldiers and capturing 4. They also seized a machinegun, 16 rifles and a wireless set.

9 April: Mujahideen attack a 'mobile force' in Charikar area, killing 3 soldiers.

Mujahideen kill 4 Soviet-Kabul soldiers in an attack on a security post in Charikar area.

Mujahideen seize arms and ammunition from a security post in Najrab area after killing 3 enemy troops.

13 April: Mujahideen simultaneously hit the Bagram airbase and military centre of Sajan Dara with rockets and surface-to-surface missiles.

Two jets shot down in Gulbahar area.

16 April: Mujahideen shoot down a helicopter in Jablus Siraj town on the Salang Highway. The copter was bombarding Mujahideen positions.

18 April: A security post eliminated in Najrab district. Five Afghan government soldiers along with some arms and ammunition captured.

VOIR: According to another report, Afghan government aircraft bombed Parwan province (22 April, 1987).

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Muslim Mujahideen have shot down a combat aircraft of the Kabul regime in Parwan province. They also killed 50 communist troops in an attack on an enemy camp in this province. One tank and two military vehicles were destroyed (5 April, 1987).

The freedom fighters shot a helicopter at a place about 10 kilometres in Parwan province (News-Urdu: 17 April, 1987).

Mujahideen attacked a military convoy in Parwan province on 13 April, killing 13 troops (News-Urdu: 23 April, 1987).

Radio Beijing: According to Azad Afghan Press, Afghan Mujahi-

deen recently attacked an airport and a military base camp of Soviet troops in Parwan province on 13 April (23 April, 1987).

Kapisa

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen capture a security post near Najrab on April 18, without any resistance from the troops stationed there. They simply run away. Mujahideen burnt the building and carried home a machinegun, a wireless set and 14 klashnikov rifles.

Laghman

Mujahideen Sources: A Soviet-made helicopter downed in Nuristan valley. It was bombing a Mujahideen 'centre' near Ali Shung town (along with other helicopters) as part of a campaign against the Liberated Areas. Mujahideen encircled Soviet-Kabul troops and inflicted heavy losses on them. A tank destroyed. Four Mujahideen were killed during the fighting.

28-29 March: Eighteen 'Russians' killed near village Wardak.

2 April: Fighting continued between Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul troops in Ali Shang area. Reports said 30 'Russian and regime troops' had been killed and a large number of others injured. Soviet aircraft heavily bombarded the neighbourhood.

Logar

Mujahideen Sources: 8-4 April: Mujahideen make a series of attacks on Soviet-Kabul troops and installations in Logar province.

6-8 April: A column of Soviet-Kabul troops leaves Kabul for Gardez in Paktia province on April 6 reaching Pul-e-Alam, headquarters of Logar province on the following day. Mujahideen attack the column with rockets and missiles killing 60 Soviet-Kabul troops and wounding many more. Eight tanks and other vehicles were destroyed.

In retaliation, Soviet-Kabul aircraft and artillery heavily bombarded nearly villages.

16 April: Soviet-Kabul troops ambushed a party of Mujahideen heading toward Chinari Kandao. Mujahideen succeeded in breaking the "encirclement" after 4 hours of intense fighting. Mujahideen lost 8 fighters in the encounter.

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a caravan of the Soviet-Afghan forces in Logar province on April 8, killing or wounding 50 of their troops and destroying 8 tanks and a number of armoured vehicles (19 April, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The DRA forces entered the Logar province and asked the extremists to lay down their arms and surrender themselves. They fired on the armed forces. The armed forces then launched a counter-attack and seized the positions of the extremists. As a result, 3 ring leaders of the extremist groups were eliminated (22 April, 1987).

Wardak

Nil report from all sources.

4 - PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul: Given below are the major Kabul Radio themes in April 1987 in descending order of recurrence:

1. Projecting the plan of peace and reconciliation punctuated with call for general amnesty and appealing refugees to return.
2. Allegations against Pakistan government.
3. Alleged foreign intervention in Afghanistan by U.S. Western media, Pakistan, China and Iran in particular.
4. Attacks on the personality of the President of Pakistan.
5. Projection of political opposition forces in their anti-government stand.

Radio Moscow: Given below are the major Moscow media themes in April 1987 in descending order of recurrence:

1. Highlighting the Kabul plan for peace and national reconciliation.
2. Projecting refugees' return and how it is being obstructed by Pakistan and Iran.
3. Alleged foreign intervention in and undeclared war against Afghanistan.
4. Criticism of Pakistan's acquisition of arms from Indo-Soviet perspective.
5. Lamenting terrorist activities undertaken by counter-revolutionary elements in Afghanistan.

APPENDIX - 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Soviet Casualties	:	356 killed and	202 wounded
Kabul Casualties	:	357 killed and	94 wounded
Soviet-Kabul Casualties	:	804 killed and	521 wounded
Defections	:	749 Kabul troops defected and	198 captured
Mujahideen Casualties	:	331 killed and	290 wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	443 killed and	123 wounded

Material Losses

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses:—

Aircraft	41	LMGs	40	Security Posts	44
Helicopters	46	HMGs	6	Khad Offices	4
Tanks	126	Klashnikovs	1034	PDPA	2
APCs	10	R. Launchers	18	Establishments	
Trucks	36	Doshaka	2		
Jeeps	8	Rifles	363		
Oil Tankers	17	Powerhouses	2		
Wireless Sets	11	Bags of sugar	1200		
Rockets	30	T.T. Pistol	9		
Bulldozers	3	Weapons	313		
Surgical Set	1	Concrete bunkers	4		
Cinema	1				

Mujahideen and Afghan Civilian Material Losses:—

Villages	—
Houses	164
Based/Hideouts	—
Crops	Several
Livestocks	Over 100 heads of livestock.
Food Stuff	—
Arms and Ammunition	
Vehicles	23 various vehicles.

APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1987: SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Losses inflicted by counter-revolutionaries

Human Losses: 28 killed, 40 wounded.

Property Losses: 2 Mosques; 9 residential units; 1 bus.

Returnees (those availing amnesty, voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance and joining Soviet-Kabul ranks: 2,615

Mujahideen Material Losses:

1 vehicle; Dshkh gun 1 (plus 5 shells);
5 rocket launchers;
26 Klashnikovs;
70 kg explosives;
4 munition depots;
10,000 cartridges;
several ground-to-ground missile with "reactivator" unit;
various arms.

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN APRIL 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capital	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	5	Zaranj	1	1
Hilmand	10	Lashkargarh	—	3
Qandahar	42	Qandahar	8	17
Zabul	9	Kalat Gilzai	1	2
Ghazni	17	Ghazni	2	1
Paktika	3	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	46	Gardez	2	—
Ningarhar	71	Jalalabad	2	—
Kunar	25	Chagha Sarai	7	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	3	Faizabad		
Takhar	27	Taloqan	3	2
Kunduz	17	Kunduz		
Baghlan	41	Baghlan	13	1
Samangan	3	Samangan		
Balkh	19	Mazar Sharif	3	1
Jozjan	5	Shebergan	—	—
Faryab	17	Maimana	3	
Badghis	8	Qala Nau	—	1
Bordering Iran				
Herat	39	Herat	18	
Farah	7	Farah		
(Nimruz)		(Zaranj)		
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan		
Ghor	—	Chagcharan		
Uruzgan	1	Tarin Kot		
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	28	Kabul	8	1
Parwan	26	Charikar	1	2
Kapisa	1	Mahmud-i-Raqi		
Laghman	14	Mehtarlam		
Logar	13	Pule Alam	6	1
Wardak	—	Koteasro		
TOTAL:	497		78	29

APPENDIX — 4

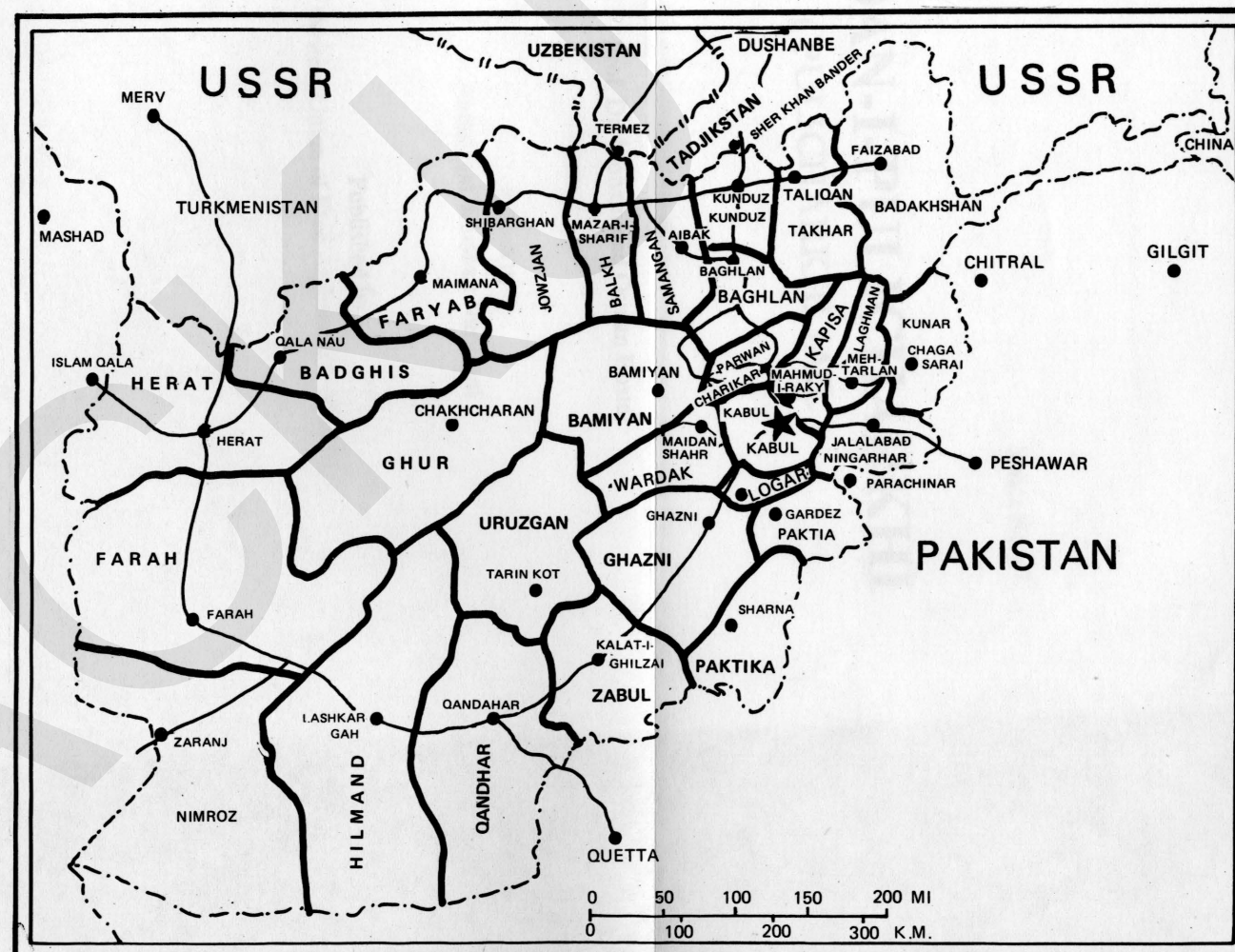
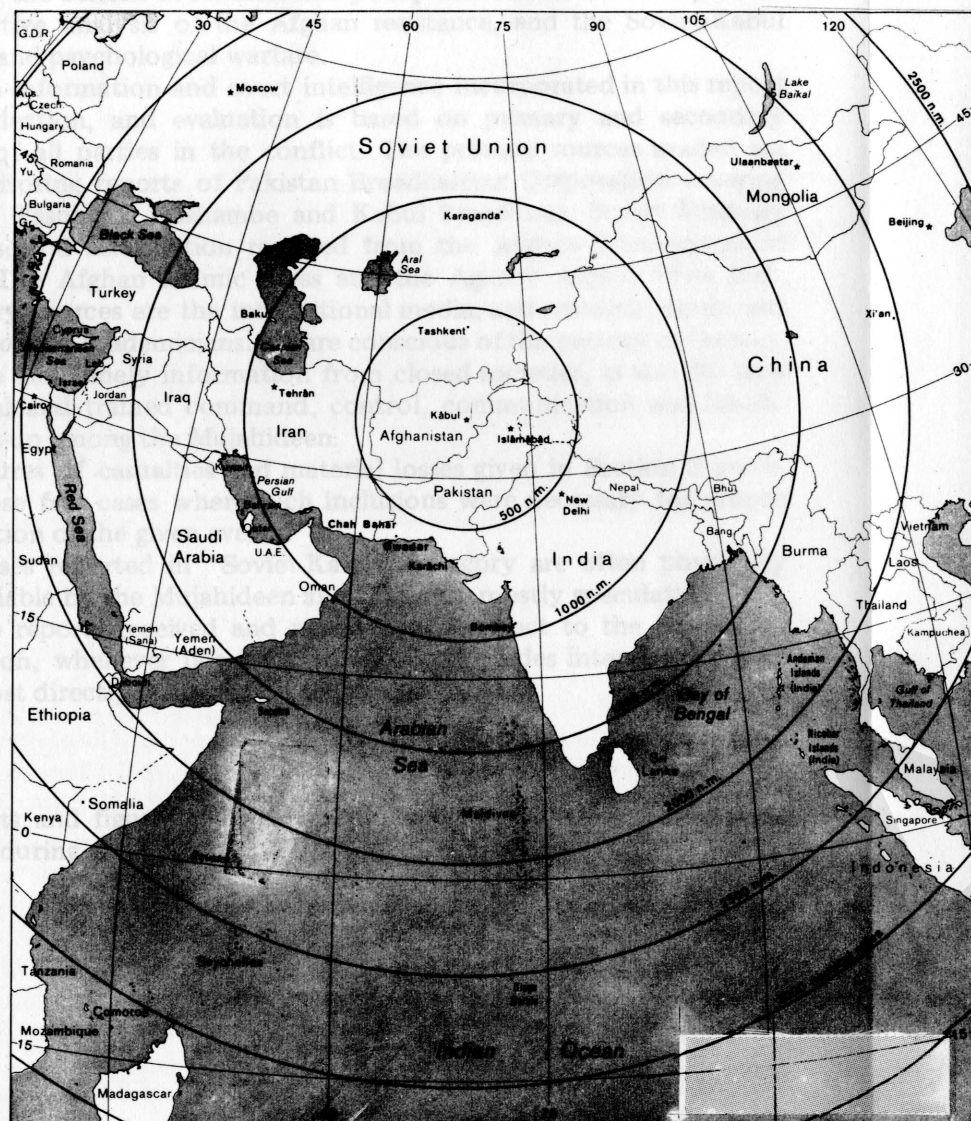
MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND
SOVIET-KABUL OPERATIONS IN APRIL 1987
(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Soviet-Kabul Operations		Total
	Mobile	Immobile	Air	Ground	
Bordering Pakistan					
Nimruz	—	5	—	—	5
Hilmand	5	3	2	—	10
Qandahar	23	13	3	3	42
Zabul	3	1	3	—	7
Ghazni	9	4	4	1	17
Paktika	1	1	—	1	3
Paktiya	22	10	14	—	46
Ningarhar	25	10	19	17	71
Kunar	10	2	8	5	25
Bordering USSR					
Badakhshan	2	—	—	1	3
Takhar	14	7	4	2	27
Kunduz	1	7	8	1	17
Baghlan	15	2	13	11	41
Samangan	1	2	—	—	3
Balkh	7	8	4	—	19
Jozjan	—	4	—	1	5
Faryab	2	10	2	5	17
Badghis	1	6	1	—	8
Bordering Iran					
Herat	6	3	12	18	39
Farah	4	1	2	—	7
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Afghanistan					
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	1	—	—	—	1
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces					
Kabul	10	2	4	12	28
Parwan	10	6	7	3	26
Kapisa	—	1	—	—	1
Laghman	8	—	2	4	14
Logar	2	9	1	1	13
Wardak	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	182	117	111	87	497

APPENDIX — 5

PROVINCEWISE SOVIET-KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS AND
RETURNEES IN APRIL 1987 (Radio Kabul)

Provinces	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Counter-Revolutionaries Action	R e t u r n e e s	
			Total Reports	Numbers
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	1	1	—	895
Hilmand	—	—	—	—
Qandahar	—	—	—	—
Zabul	—	—	—	—
Ghazni	—	—	—	—
Paktika	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	2	1	—	—
Ningarhar	—	—	5	510
Kunar	—	1	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	—	—	—	—
Takhar	—	—	—	113
Kunduz	—	—	—	25
Baghlan	—	—	—	—
Samangan	—	—	—	—
Balkh	—	—	—	—
Jozjan	—	—	—	180
Faryab	—	1	2	223
Badghis	—	—	—	11
Bordering Iran				
Herat	—	—	—	554
Farah	—	—	1	21
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	3	—	—	59
Parwan	—	—	—	25
Kapisa	—	—	—	—
Laghman	—	—	—	—
Logar	1	1	—	—
Wardak	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	7	5		2615



Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during April 1987 in all 26 provinces of Afghanistan except Bamiyan, Ghor, Wardak.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported in Nimruz, Hilmand, Paktiya, Kunar, Faryab, Kabul and Logar (7 provinces).

II.— THE POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — FOREIGN VISITS AND AGREEMENTS

Messages

Messages on various occasions were sent to, received from and exchanged with the following countries and organizations: Argentina, Hungary, India, Palestine National Council, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Nations Organization and Zimbabwe.

Cuba

Prof. Guldad, Vice-Chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, heading a delegation, visited Havana from April 12 to 23, 1987 to participate in the events of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution, organised by the Socialist countries' Associations of Friendship with the Soviet Union (*KNT*, 14, 24 April).

Abdul Wakil, DRA Minister of Foreign Affairs, heading a delegation visited Havana from April 16 to 23, 1987 to participate in the ministerial meeting of Group-77. On his way back to Kabul, Wakil met his Soviet counterpart in Moscow and discussed with him issues of mutual interest (*KNT*, 23 April and Radio Kabul, 25 April).

Czechoslovakia

Mr. Bohuslav Handle, the new Ambassador of Czechoslovakia to Kabul presented his credentials to Haji Mohammad Chamkani, President of the DRA RC Presidium on April 9, 1987 (*KNT*, 11 April).

The Third session of Afghan-Czech Joint Commission of Cooperation was held in Kabul on April 7-9, 1987. Najibullah Maseer, Minister of Mines and Industries headed the DRA delegation in the session while the Czech delegation was led by Ladeslav Balzik, Deputy Minister of Energy and Fuel of that country. The following protocols were signed in the session:

- a. Protocol on evaluation of implementation of the decisions and resolutions arrived at in the session.
 - b. Protocol on cooperation in exploration of Sabzak Coal mines in Herat Province.
 - c. Protocol on cooperation in the fields of Power, Energy and Construction, (*KNT*, 12 April).
- A protocol on bilateral trade for 1987-88 between DRA and

Czechoslovakia was signed in Kabul on April 13, 1987 by Ghulam Mohammad Yalaqi, DRA Deputy Commerce Minister and Dr. M. Okroughly, head of the Czech economic delegation on behalf of their respective Governments. The protocol envisages an increase of 10% in the trade during 1987-88 as compared to 1986-87 (*KNT*, 14 April).

On April 18, Abdul Baqi Samandri was designated as DRA Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. Samandri was First Deputy Minister of Finance till his new assignment.

Bohuslav Chnoupek, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, heading a delegation, visited Kabul from April 25 to 30, 1987. During his visit, in addition to participating in celebration of the 9th anniversary of Saur Revolution, he signed the following two protocols:

- a. Protocol on cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the DRA and Czechoslovakia.
- b. Protocol on cooperation between the Ministries of Public Health of DRA and Czechoslovakia.

At the end of his visit a Joint Communique was also issued in which, inter alia, the Czech side supported the DRA National Reconciliation Programme and appreciated the DRA's constructive and flexible stand in the Geneva Talks, held between Pakistan and Afghanistan through the UN Secretary General (Radio Kabul, 28, April).

Iran

The Charge d' Affairs of the Embassy of Iran in Kabul was called to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs on April 27, 1987. Expressing the DRA concern over the 'attack by a gang of armed terrorists on the residence of the DRA Embassy Charge d' Affairs in Teheran and exchange of firing between the gangmen and embassy guards on April 23 at 1.40 PM', the CDA was asked for punishment of the perpetrators of the event by the Iranian authorities and taking into account their international obligations, and to adopt necessary security measures against recurrence of such unpleasant events (Radio Kabul, 27 April).

Mongolia

An agreement on Mongolian gratis aid to the DRA was signed on April 16, 1987 by Farid Zarif, Deputy Foreign Minister of DRA and K. Banzragch, Ambassador of Mongolia in Kabul. According to the agreement, Mongolia will supply foodstuffs and train the DRA cadres (*KNT*, 18 April).

Pakistan

On April 1, 1987, a spokesman of the DRA Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, in his interview with the Bakhtar Information Agency maintained that the Afghan plane, which had been allegedly shot down by two F-16 fighter planes of Pakistan airforce on March 30, 1987 was an Antonov-26 plane boarded with 40 passengers including crew and that the plane was on a regular domestic flight from Kabul to Khost (Paktia Province), while it was intercepted and forced to change its route over the border of Chamkani district. The DRA Foreign Minister also wrote a letter to the UN Secretary General expressing 'strong protest' therein (*KNT*, 1 April).

Abdul Ghani Khan Ghani S/o Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan arrived Kabul from Peshawar via Torkham-Jalalabad on April 9, 1987. At the Kabul Airport, he was received amongst others, by Abdul Rashid Waziri, head of the Nationalities, Tribes and Border Affairs Department of the PDPA CC, Zahir Ofaq, Deputy Chairman of DRA Academy of Sciences and Ajmal Khattak. On April, 25 1987 he attended the cards distribution ceremony of the academicians/candidate academicians of the DRA Academy of Sciences and received the card of honorary academician.

Advocate Arbab Humayun B/O Arbab Sikandar Khan (late) former Governor of NWFP and Mohammad Afzal Khan, member CC of Awami National Party arrived Kabul via Torkham-Jalalabad on April 15 and 20, 1987 respectively. At Kabul airport, they were received by Abdul Rashid Waziri, head of the Nationalities, Tribes and Border Affairs Department of the PDPA CC and Ajmal Khattak. Reportedly they were waiting for visa to go to Soviet Union (*Radio Kabul* 15 April).

Under the auspices of the Writers Association of Afghanistan, a two day seminar on Contemporary Literature of Pushtoons and Baluch (of Pakistan) was held at Ariana Hotel Kabul on April 11-12, 1987. 18 papers were read out in the seminar by the local writers. Ajmal Khattak, Ghani Khan and Sofi Juma Khan also attended the seminar.

Syria

Najmuddin Kawyani, Secretary PDPA CC, heading a delegation visited Damascus on April 20, 1987 to participate in the International Symposium 'Lenin and the East'. He there signed a protocol of co-operation between the PDPA and Socialist Baath Party of Syria for the year 1987-89 (*KNT*, 22 April).

USA

An arranged protest march/meeting of the Kabul citizens was held on April 15, 1987 in front of the USA Embassy in Kabul, denouncing the USA aggression against Libya on April 15 last year. The meeting was addressed by Khalil Ahmad Abawi, Chairman of the National Front

Council of Kabul City, Maulvi Abdul Wali Hojat, Vice-President of DRA Supreme Court and President of the Afghan-Libyan Friendship Society, Maulvi Ghulam Sarwar Manzoor, Chairman of the High Council of Ulema and Clergies and Salem A. Elhuni, Secretary of the Libyan Popular Bureau, Kabul. At the end of meeting, a USA flag was burnt and a resolution adopted, in which the US aggression against Libya was condemned and Afghan People's solidarity with Libya pledged.

USSR

A protocol on cooperation in the sphere of public health between the DRA and USSR was signed in Kabul on April 4, 1987 by Sher Bahadur, DRA Minister of Public Health and Oleg Scherin, First Deputy Health Minister of Soviet Union on behalf of their respective Governments. Under the protocol, the Soviet side will supply X-ray, physiotherapy, medical and surgical equipment/instruments and medicines during the current year. Services of Soviet specialists and facilities for higher education to Afghan doctors in Soviet Union will also be provided. The protocol also provides for maintaining cooperation between the state medical institutes of Kabul and Dushanbe city. Oleg Scherin, heading his country's health delegation was on a friendly visit to Kabul from April 1 to 6, 1987 (*KNT*, 5 April and *Radio Moscow*, 5 April).

A team of experts of the Soviet State Committee for foreign economic relations arrived Kabul on April 8, 1987 to evaluate the work on implementation of the Soviet aided development projects in Afghanistan (*KNT*, 9 April).

Yuri Sergievich Surkhin, Soviet Minister of Transport, heading a delegation visited Kabul from April 8 to 16, 1987 and signed a protocol on transport between the DRA and Soviet Union. Under the protocol, valid for year 1366 (1987-88), the Soviet Union will arrange transportation of 200,000 tons and 90,000 tons of goods of vessels from Soviet Union to Afghan river ports of Hairatan and Sher Khan respectively and 2 million tons of goods by road/rail. Extension of railway from Soviet side to Hairatan and construction of a railway station there is also included in the protocol (*KNT*, 15 April).

A delegation of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan (DYOA), headed by its First Secretary Farid Ahmad Mazdak, visited Soviet Union from April 8 to 20, 1987 to participate in the 20th Congress of the Soviet Komsomol.

Dr. Mehr Mohammad Ejazi, President of the DRA, State Medical Institute, Kabul and Dr. Yosuf Bashir Khanovich Eshaki, head of the State Medical Institute of Soviet Republic of Tajekistan signed on April

12, 1987 in Kabul a protocol on mutual cooperation between their institutes. Under the protocol, valid for 1987-88, the two sides will cooperate in training cadres, exchange of experts, experiences and medical instruments (*KNT*, 13 April).

A protocol on expansion of economic and trade relations between the DRA and USSR Chambers of Commerce and Industries was signed in Kabul on April 16, 1987. The protocol was signed by Mohammad Hakim, General President of the DRA Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Igor Shapovalov, head of the Foreign Relation Department of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industries on behalf of their respective chambers (*KNT*, 18 April).

Konstantine Katushov, President of the USSR State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, heading a delegation visited Kabul from April 15 to 22, 1987 and signed the following documents on Soviet assistance to the DRA:

- a. Agreement on economic and technical cooperation aimed at starting projects with participation of private sector in Afghanistan.
- b. Protocol on gratis aid in education, health, mass media and communication spheres.
- c. Protocol on economic and technical cooperation in building economic projects in private sector.
- d. Protocol on aid for anti-locust campaign, establishment of 5 veterinary clinics and setting up of laboratories in Polytechnic Institute, Automechanic school, Kabul and petrochemical technical school, Mazar-e-Sharif for 1987-88.
- e. Protocol on technical and economic studies of proposed 38 productive projects in private and mixed sectors and 12 joint Afghan-Soviet industrial private projects.

During stay in Kabul, K. Katushov also participated in and addressed the opening ceremonies of the Blood Bank, Steel and Iron Smelting and casting unit of Jangalak Factory and the First country-wide conference of National Entrepreneurs (*KNT*, 18-22, April).

Under the auspices of PDPA CC and Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization (PSFO) of Afghanistan, the 117th birth anniversary of V.I. Lenin was marked in a function held on April 21, 1987 in the Stor Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kabul. The function was attended, amongst others, by Dr. Najib, Keshtmand and K. Katushov, Chairman of Soviet State Committee for Economic Relation with Foreign countries. Speaking at the occasion, Keshtmand said that V.I. Lenin had formulated principled relations with the Muslim peoples and during the last 70 years, the Soviet state had put in practice his promise

with no violation of the Islamic faith, considering it as a personal affair of each Muslim. He added that the Soviet Muslims had solved their economic and cultural backwardness and developed as the most advanced societies of the world. The Soviet Ambassador to Kabul P.P. Mozhaev also spoke to the function. Referring to the national reconciliation programme of the DRA he said:

"The Soviet Union supports the new political way of thinking for the solution of regional disputes including the settlement of issues around Afghanistan. Imperialism and regional reaction are trying to nullify the policy of the DRA for national reconciliation in establishing peace and security on the Afghan land and create obstacles in the way of the normalisation of the situation around Afghanistan. Our country firmly supports the policy of national accord and is ready to render all-round assistance in this sphere". (*KNT*, 22 April).

Mohammad Bashir Baghlani, DRA Minister of Justice heading a delegation visited Soviet Union from April 22 to 30, 1987 on a friendly visit.

Lev Yerminev, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic heading a delegation visited Kabul from April 25 to 29, 1987 to participate in celebration of the 9th anniversary of Saur Revolution (*KNT*, 28-30 April).

A protocol on cooperation between the DRA Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Soviet Ministry of Religious Affairs was signed in Kabul on April 26, 1987. Maulvi Abdul Jamil Zarifi, DRA Minister of Islamic Affairs and Trusts and Sheikh-ul-Islam Allah Shukur Pashazadah, head of the Religious Affairs Department for Trans-Caucasia States of the Soviet Union signed the document to this effect. The protocol provides for cooperation in religious affairs and expansion of exchange of religious delegations between the two countries (*KNT*, 28 April).

A protocol on cooperation between the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society and the Soviet Friendship and Cultural Relations with Afghanistan Society was signed in Kabul on April 28, 1987 by Candidate Academician Abdul Samee Ghafari, President of the Social Institute, DRA Academy of Sciences and B.G. Andreev, head of the High Party School, Leningrad on behalf of the two societies (*KNT*, 29 April).

Vietnam

An agreement on cooperation, consolidation and expansion of cultural relations and exchange of information for 1987-1991 between the journalists unions of the DRA and Vietnam was signed in Kabul on

April 26, 1987 by Dr. Mahmoud Habibi, acting Chairman of the DRA journalists' Union and Van Ba Kiem, Vietnamese Ambassador, on behalf of the unions of their respective countries (*KNT*, 28 April).

2 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Ninth Anniversary of National Democratic Rule Celebrated

The ninth anniversary of the foundation of the national democratic rule was marked on 27 April throughout the country through particular festive functions. Najib and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the DRA participated in the celebration held in the independence avenue Kabul. The ceremony was attended by Haji Mohammad Samkanai and Sultan Ali Keshtmand (*KNT*, 28 April).

Prisoners Pardoned on 9th Anniversary of Saur Revolution

Presidium of the Revolutionary Council under clause 43 of the basic principles of Afghanistan, on the eve of the 9th anniversary of the Saur Revolution pardoned the remaining term of imprisonment of a number of prisoners in the capital and provinces of the country, (Radio Kabul, 26 April).

Strict Security Measures Taken on eve of April Revolution Anniversary in Kabul

On the eve of the anniversary of Marxist coup in Afghanistan, the regime in Kabul adopted strict security measures by deploying eight thousand Soviet troops in Kabul city. News agency reports say that the eight thousand Soviet troops who were responsible for security of Kabul city, started twenty-four hours petrol inside Kabul city and in its suburbs and were keeping close watch on government buildings and installations. The report adds that one hundred military posts were established in the suburbs of Kabul city alone (Radio Teheran, 25 April).

Periodic Sessions of PDPA CC Politburo

Two Periodic Sessions of the PDPA CC Politburo were held during the month of April 1987 wherein the following points were discussed and decisions taken thereon:—

a. Session on April 9, 1987:

- (i) Approval to the results of implementation of the socio-economic development plan and State budget for the year 1365 (1986-87) and the draft plan and budget for 1366 (1987-88).
- (ii) Evaluation of the fundamental principles of establish-

ment of mutual and fruitful cooperation between national private sector and the State, for improving national economy.

- (iii) Assessment of the activities of the PDPA CC Social Sciences Institute, Kabul.
 - (iv) Approval to the convocation of International Holy Quran Recitation Contest in the month of Ramadan and the exceptional celebration of the month this year.
 - (v) Evaluation of the results of the second congress of creative intellectuals held in March 1987.
 - (vi) Approval to the publication of a magazine 'Party Life', by the PDPA CC.
 - (vii) Approval to the programme of celebration of May Day by the workers of Afghanistan in the light of national reconciliation programme.
 - (viii) Evaluation of the results of receiving people by the Party and State high-ups at Delkusha Palace, Kabul during 1365 (1986-87) (*KNT*, 11 April).
- b. Session on April 23, 1987:
- (i) Review of the joint resolution of the PDPA CC and Council of Ministers dated June 19, 1986 on adoption of additional measures for improving the living conditions of the wounded, disabled and the bereaved families of martyres.
 - (ii) Assessment of the results of the first nation-wide conference of private entrepreneurs held on April 19-20, 1987.
 - (iii) Evaluation of the report of the PDPA CC Commission for work with tribes and nationalities under conditions of national reconciliation.
 - (iv) Approval of the report Zahoor Razmjo, Secretary of Kabul City Party Committee on preparation for celebration of the 9th anniversary of Revolution.
 - (v) Evaluation of the report of Farid Ahmad Mazdak, First Secretary of DYO A, on participation of DYO A delegation in the 20th Congress of Leninist Komsomol in Moscow (*KNT* 25, April).

DRA RC Session

A regular session of the DRA Revolutionary Council was held on April 11, 1987 at Delkusha Palace Kabul, RC headquarters wherein the following were endorsed:—

- a. Report on work of the DRA RC Presidium and Permanent Commission during the second half of Afghan Year 1365 (September 23, 1986 to March 20, 1987).
- b. Report on results of the socio-economic development plan for the year 1365 (1986-87) and main aspects of the plan for the year 1366 (1987-88).
- c. Report on assessment of state budget for the year 1365 (1986-87) and budget for the year 1366 (1987-88).

Some organizational issues were also discussed and the following decisions arrived at:—

- a. Election of Ghulam Mohaiuddin Amar, former deputy head of Expansion and Consolidation of State Power Department of PDPA CC as member of DRA RC and Secretary of DRA RC Presidium.
- b. Election of Prof. Ghulam Sakhi Masoon, President of the Lawyers Association as member of DRA RC.
- c. Election of 14 new members of the RC Commission for drafting the new DRA Constitution, (*KNT*, 12, April).

Session of Council of Ministers

A regular plenary session of the DRA Council of Ministers was held on April 8, 1987, following points were tabled for discussion and decision taken thereon:—

- a. Assessment of the socio-economic Development Plan of year 1365 (1986-87).
- b. Assessment of the State Budget for the year 1365 (1986-87).
- c. Approval of the socio-economic Development Plan of year 1366 (1987-88).
- d. Approval of the State Budget for year 1366 (1987-99).
- e. Endorsement of 20 legislative documents.
- f. Endorsement of the joint resolutions of Politburo, DRA RC and Council of Ministers concerning the development and improvement of activities of private sector in the national economy, effective utilization of Soviet aid and improvement of salary and other privileges of personnel of the armed forces.

Speaking at the session, Sultan Ali Keshtmand, Chairman of the Council of Ministers said that the State Budget for year 1366 (1987-88) was drawn up with consideration of different aspects of the growth of national economy as well as activities in social and cultural spheres. About the socio-economic development plan of year 1366 (1987-88), Keshtmand enumerated the following measures, foreseen therein, as radical tasks:—

- a. Strengthening and further growth of the results achieved from the plan execution and maintaining of necessary socio-economic conditions for realisation of the national reconciliation.
- b. Growth of State, mixed and cooperative sectors of the economy with active participation of private sector therein.
- c. Ever greater use of the existing resources and raising production efficiency.
- d. Discharging important tasks in the sphere of social services, (*KNT*, 9, April).

20th Plenum of the Kabul Provincial Party Committee Held

The 20th plenum of Kabul provincial Party Committee devoted to the “task of Party, social organisations and state organs among peasants” was held on April 2 in Kabul chaired by Najib Fazal Ahmad Toghian secretary of Kabul provincial party committee presented the main report to the plenum on the committee’s activities and the measures adopted for work among the peasants in the villages. Najib said that the issue before the plenum was of particular importance. He emphasized the need to improve political work among peasants for NR and peace. Villages should be changed in the centres of party activities and finally it is the peasants who will decide when peace and security can be ensured. Agrarian problems are the key issues in the life of our society and party as far as socio-economic growth of the country is concerned. Najib added that “great changes have occurred in the life of the peasants in the years of the revolution. It is important to show to the peasants that the PDPA is the political Party of the Afghanistan people and respect their local traditions and their religious beliefs and meet their demands and the revolutionary changes are not in contradiction with the Islamic traditions”. (*KNT*, April 4, 1987).

National Reconciliation Commissions

1300 NR commissions at village to provincial levels have been set up country-wide in the last three months reconciliation with the participation of tribal and clerical leaders and representatives of opposition groups. Over 21,000 armed men joined the process in the same period which proves the successful implementation of the policy. 949 villages have come under state control and in 853 villages the second phase of elections to local organs of State Power and administration were held. 5,000 families of 53,000 members have returned home despite all Pakistani and Iranian obstructions. Necessary assistance was rendered to the repatriates, (*KNT*, April 8, 1987).

Thirty-nine NR Commissions have been set-up in 227 villages of

Paktia and 24 former members of opposition are included. Contacts have been established with six opposition groups and cooperation protocols signed with another two groups. 267 families have returned with the efforts of the Commission. The repatriates were provided foodstuff and other essential items. Workers have expressed their full support for the NR policy. Peasants, craftsmen and private entrepreneurs of the Province have expressed the repair and build the houses of the repatriates. In Takhar province alone, two former leaders of an armed group were elected as members of the Commission. Additional 20 commissions, 6 village peace Jirgas have also been established with the influential elders of the province. Foodstuff and consumer goods gifted by the Soviet Union have been distributed to the repatriates in 19 villages of the provinces, (KNT April 5, 1987).

New Laws

After the endorsement of the RC, the Law on Legal trial in the DRA in 10 chapters and 37 articles for elevating the role of legal trial in consolidation of revolutionary legality and defence of the rights and freedoms of the citizens and the law on conservation of nature were published in the official gazette and enforced, (KNT, April 9, 1987).

A session of the Presidium of the RC was held on April 3 under the chairmanship of Haji Mohammad Samkanai, Acting President. The session endorsed the law on domestic and foreign private investments in the DRA, (KNT, 4 April).

Constitution Drafting Session

The fourth session for drafting the constitution was chaired by Najib on April 6, in Kabul. Najib in his speech called for the need for drafting a democratic constitution. He said that after the April revolution basic document has been endorsed to 11 socio-economics socio-political state and military aspects and now it is time to endorse the constitution of the DRA. In drafting the new constitution the proposals of outstanding lawyers of the DRA, the fundamental principles of the DRA, the traditional forms of democracy of Jirgas, the provisions of the declaration of human rights and other international conventions accepted by the DRA have also been endorsed. Compatriots who are still on the opposite side can participate in the deliberations on the new constitution. We have repeatedly spoken on this and invited all our countrymen to share in the drafting of the constitution—the important document of national reconciliation, (KNT, 7, April).

Conference of National Entrepreneurs Held

The ever first countrywide conference of National Entrepreneurs was held on April 19-20, 1987 in the Hall of Melmapal Hotel, Kabul wherein various matters, including the active participation of Private Entrepreneurs in the process of national reconciliation, ensuring the growth of national economy and better organizing the fruitful mutual relations between the Government and private sector were discussed. The inaugurating session on April 19, 1987 was also participated in and addressed amongst others by Dr. Najib, Keshtmand and K.F. Katushov, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries. In his speech, Dr. Najib defined the main aspects of work and tasks of private entrepreneurs directed at the growth of national economy and removing the socio-economic backwardness of the country and successful implementation of the national reconciliation programme. K.F. Katushov, in his address, mentioned about the existence of firm friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DRA, particularly in the economic and technical spheres. He added that both the Governments had plans to evaluate the Soviet institutions' cooperation and sharing in establishing various agro-industrial projects in Afghanistan in mixed and private sectors.

The following documents were also adopted in the Conference:—

- a. *Resolution of the Conference*: In this the participants of the Conference had pledged to implement the socio-economic development plan and national reconciliation programme and work for enhancement of the country's production, using all their properties, money and talent.
- b. *Message to the PDPA CC, DRA RC and Extraordinary National Reconciliation Commission*: Assurance of their support was extended for the reconciliation and economic policy of the Party and state.
- c. *Message to compatriots abroad (Afghan refugees)*: The refugees were asked to return to the country, availing of the national reconciliation policy of the state and various decrees issued in this regard.

Najib Visits Training Regiments

Najib visited on 1st April the training regiments of the border forces accompanied by Maj. Gen. Mohammad Rafi, Minister of Defence, Col. Gen. Ghulam Farooq Yaqoubi, Minister of State Security and Col. Gen. Syed Mohammad Gulabzoy, Minister of Interior was welcomed by the Deputy Ministers of Defence Commanders and officers of the Army. He visited the Afghan-Soviet friendship and political chambers

and gave instructions for improving the amenities. Soldiers expressed their gratitude to the government and pledged to serve the defence of the homeland, (*KNT*, 2 April).

Promotion

Najib handed over on April 27, cards to a number of army officers who promoted from the rank of Maj. Gen. to Lt. Gen. and from the rank of Colonel to Maj. Gen. in honour of the 9th anniversary of the April Revolution, (*KNT*, 20 April).

Defence — Increase in Pay of Armymen

The Politburo of the PDPA CC and RC of DRA in a joint resolution, increased the monthly salaries of the soldiers and non-commissioned officers of the Armed Forces. This is yet another incentive to the eligible young men for their compulsory military services, who continuously evade the same and, at times, desert after joining.

The soldiers in the combat and offensive detachments of the army have been granted more rise in their pay as compared to those serving in the non-combat and supply units etc, because of the greater risks involved to the first categories (*KNT*, 23 April).

Council of Ministers

On April 18, 1987 the DRA RC Presidium approved the transfer/appointment of Ghulam Sarwar Yuresh, Deputy Foreign Minister as the Chairman, DRA State Committee of Bakhtar Information Agency (*KNT*, 9 April).

Property Returned

Kabul Plastic Factory and Karim Textile Mill in Kabul Industrial Estate owned by a national capital holder, Mohammad Karim were returned to his legal representative Homayoon Azizi. By a verdict of special revolutionary court (*KNT*, 11, April).

3 — NATIONALITIES POLICY

Jirgas Held

In the process of holding jirgas/meetings of pro-regime Elders and Elements explaining the support of cooperation in its implementation, Dr. Najib, Haji Mohammad Chamkani and other high-ups of the Party and State Chaired and addressed the following jirgas during the month of April 1987:—

a. Jirgas Addressed by Dr. Najib

- (i) Jirga of elders of Qalai Ahmad Khan village, Bagrami district (Kabul Province) at the house of one Ghulam Islam of the same village on April 3, 1987 (*KNT*, 4 April).
- (ii) Jirga of elders of Sherin Tagal and Daulat Abad districts of Fariab Province at Dilkusha Palace, Kabul on April 16, 1987 (*KNT*, 18 April).
- (iii) Jirga of elders of Jaghatu district, Ghazni Province at Dilkusha Palace, Kabul on April 26, 1987 (*KNT*, 27 April).
- b. *Jirgas Addressed by Haji Mohammad Chamkani*
 - (i) Peace Jirga of Khost Division, Paktia Province at Gulkhana Palace, Kabul on April 3, 1987.
 - (ii) Jirga of elders of Ali Khel village, Bagrami district (Kabul Province) at Gulkhana Palace, Kabul on April 6, 1987 (*KNT*, 7 April).
 - (iii) Jirga of elders of Takhar Province at Gulkhana Palace, Kabul on April 13, 1987.
 - (iv) Jirga of elders of Jaji tribes (Paktia Province) at Gulkhana Palace, Kabul on April 22, 1987 (*KNT*, 23 April).
 - (v) Jirga of elders of Mangal tribe (Paktia Province) at Gulkhana Palace, Kabul on April 23, 1987 (*KNT*, 25 April).
- c. *Jirgas Addressed by Other High-ups*
 - (i) Jirga of elders of Chauki and Khas Kunar district and Noorgul sub-district of Kunar Province at Assadabad, provincial capital on April 3, 1987 by Niaz Mohammad Mohmand, Secretary PDPA CC.
 - (ii) Jirga of elders of Hazara nationality of Oruzgan Province at Headquarters of the Central Council of Hazara Nationality, Kabul on April 3, 1987 by Prof. Shah Ali Akbar Shahristani, Vice-President (Culture and Political Affairs) of the said Central Council and member DRA CC Presidium.
 - (iii) Jirga of elders of Shahjoi district, Zabul Province at Kalat on April 9, 1987 by Abdul Shakoor Samim, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Council of People's Representatives (Governor), Zabul Province.
 - (iv) Jirga of pro-Afghan elders of North Waziristan (Pakistan) at the hall of Ministry of Public Health, Kabul on April 9, 1987 by Mir Sahib Karwal, alternate member of PDPA CC Politburo. Ajmal Khattak was also present.
 - (v) Jirga of local tribal elders, chairman of National Reconciliation Commissions and heads of surrendered armed

groups of Ningarhar Province at Jalalabad on April 13, 1987 by Suleman Laeeq, Minister of Nationalities and Tribes.

- (vi) Jirga of elders of Pashai nationality from Ningarhar, Kunar, Laghman, Kapisa, Kabul, Baghlan and Takhar Provinces at Jalalabad on April 13, 1987 by Suleman Laeeq, Minister of Nationalities and Tribes.
- (vii) Jirga of elders of Kuchi tribes of Ningarhar, Kunar and Laghman Provinces at Jalalabad on April 15, 1987 by Suleman Laeeq.
- (viii) Jirga of elders of Mangal tribe of Paktia Province at the hall of Central Council of High Jirga of Border Tribes, Kabul on April 18, 1987 by M. Ibrahim Atai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Council of High Jirga of Border Tribes, (Report in *KNT* and by Radio Kabul, Month of April 1987).

Religious — Celebration of Baisakhi

Baisakhi was celebrated by Sikh and Hindu community in Afghanistan on April 14-21, 1987. A function held in Sikh Grudawara, Karta-2-Parwa, Kabul on April 14, 1987 was also attended, amongst others, by Abdul Rahim Hatef, Chairman of the National Front, and Maj. Gen. Gul Aqa, Vice-President of DRA RC Presidium. The Indian Ambassador to Kabul I.P. Khosla speaking at the occasion, praised the religious freedom enjoyed by all nationalities inhabiting Afghanistan and mentioned about the Indian government and people support to the DRA national reconciliation programme.

Returnees

Reports of Returnees from Pakistan and Iran continued throughout the month of April, in the Kabul Radio Broadcast and in the Newspapers.

4 — ECONOMY

Budget

The regular session of revolutionary council of the DRA was held on April 11. Mohammad Aziz, President of State Planning Committee presented a report on the main aspects of the socio-economic development plan for 1987 and the results of the last year's plan. The session unanimously approved the plan and budget for 1987 (*KNT*, 12 April).

The regular session of the Politburo was held on April 9. The

Politburo assessed the results of the socio-economic development plan and state budget for 1986 and the draft plan and budget for 1987. The Gross Domestic Product based on the prices of 1978 reached 155.3 billion Afghanis registering a growth of 3.3 per cent and the total national income 103.5 billion Afghanis registering a growth of 3.5 per cent. The volume of agriculture and industrial output showed a growth of 1.6 and 2.5 per cent respectively as compared to 1985. A total of 18.7 billion Afghanis were spent on the construction of main establishments last year. Investment from foreign and local sources rose by 29 per cent. The contribution of the private sector to gross national product amounts to over 80 per cent (*KNT*, 11 April).

Agreements

On 18 April an agreement was signed between the DRA and Soviet Union on economic and technical cooperation, aimed at starting projects with the participation of private sector in Afghanistan. A protocol on gratis Soviet aid in Education, Public Health, Mass Media and Communication fields was signed by Sultan Ali Keshtmand and K. Katushov, President of the USSR State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries. Documents relating to Soviet aid for anti-locust campaign, establishment of five veterinary clinics and laboratories, Kabul polyclinic institute, automechanic school of Kabul and the petro-chemical technical school of Mazar-i-Sharif for 1987-88 were also signed (*KNT*, 13 April).

An agreement on Mongolian gratis aid to the DRA was signed in Kabul on 13 April. Under the agreement Mongolia is to supply food-stuffs and train DRA cadres (*KNT*, 18 April).

Protocols

A protocol on expanding cooperation in the field of transport between the DRA and the USSR for the year 1987 was signed on May 14, in Kabul. The Protocol covers matters pertaining to work on the railway station at Hairatan port and transportation of goods from the Soviet Union to the DRA (*KNT*, 15 April).

A protocol on trade cooperation was signed on April 13, between the DRA and Czechoslovakia. The trade volume between the two countries will be increased by ten per cent (*KNT*, 14 April).

Private Sector

The volume of production in the private sector amounting to 6050 million Afghanis in 1986 has an increase of 17 per cent over 1985. In all 461 private factories in the country, 281 of them are functioning in

the capital and the rest in the other provinces. The total investment of these factories is 2077 million Afghanis. 219 private enterprises were registered and approved in the post revolution years. 14 textile mills operating in the private sector produced 4,500,000 metres of cloth in 1986. Apart from Pul-e-Charkhi another industrial area was set up in 1986 in Barikot (*KNT*, 6 April).

Establishment of 115 small and medium size projects by the private sector with a total investment of Afghanis 1600 million were approved in 1986. The total number of privately owned projects in pre-revolution times did not exceed 144 with a total investment of one billion Afghanis. After the April Revolution 339 projects have been approved by the State in private sector, 43 out of them have been commissioned. This initial capital of the approved projects during the post revolution years amounts to 1.772 million Afghanis. Banking assistance is also provided to the entrepreneurs. National Bank has rendered a credit of Afghanis 6835 million, Pashtany Tejaraty Bank over 16 billion Afghanis, Export Development Bank Afghanis 17.833 million, Industrial Development Bank 1.501 million Afghanis on easy term to them (*KNT*, 13 April).

On 13 April in a session of the permanent commission for private sector investment of the executive council of the Council of Ministers has approved 15 new projects with an initial capital of 145 million Afghanis and a maximum capital of 368 million Afghanis. The projects are in the fields of leather processing, dying, pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs (*KNT*, 14 April).

Industry

The new iron and steel smelting and casting unit of Jangalak factory was inaugurated on April 21. Speaking at the function Najib stressed the significance of the new unit in the development and growth of heavy industries, thanked Soviet Union for its assistance. This new unit is the only iron smelting unit in the country which is built with the economic and technical assistance of the Soviet Union. The new plant worth 200 million Afghanis and equipped with modern machinery, will have an annual production capacity of 500 tons of cast iron, 1600 tons of steel, 15.65 tons of aluminium and 4.4 tons of bronze. Production of the new unit will help to meet the needs of construction and cement factories (*KNT*, 23 April).

Exports

Foreign and domestic trade of the country has doubled in the post revolution years. At present the number of companies exporting

their merchandize to the USSR is 111. For the encouragement of the private sector in the field of export and import, the government has provided many facilities to private traders. As a result there has been 30 to 75 per cent increase in export of raisin, wool and hides in last year. Joint ventures will be established with the Soviet Union under the protocol for exchange of commodities between the two countries in 1987. It is planed to export this year, rugs worth five million dollars to the Soviet Union through the private sector (*KNT*, 5 April).

During the last year over 85,000 tons of raisins and dry fruit were exported and earned 129 million dollars. The total export was 50 per cent more than in the year 1985, said Lutfullah Naziri, president of the department for export of raisins and dry fruits. In 1986 raisins were exported to Soviet Union and other socialist countries, Western Europe, India and Pakistan. Out of the total quantity 55212 tons of raisins were exported to the Soviet Union. To promote research and training in this field the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Trade Centre (ITC) are giving assistance in establishing laboratories and providing scholarships for the employees of the department (*KNT*, 14 April).

Last year 809,400 Afghan Karakul pelts were exported abroad and earned 10.156 million dollars. There are 38 kinds of Karakul skins in Afghanistan, with a variety of grey and brown colours. The main markets abroad are in Leningrad, Leipzig, London and Pakistan. London was biggest among foreign markets for Afghan Karakul pelts in 1986. As many as 661,610 Karakul pelts were sold to the United Kingdom and earned 9,006,625 US dollars (*KNT*, 12 April).

In 1986 the Karakul export company in Mazar-i-Sharif exported 32,500 grey, 51,046 black and 88,850 Baghana Karakul pelts through the private sector (*KNT*, 15 April).

Ataie rug weaving company have 1,800 looms in Jauzjan and Fariab provinces. The company produced 8500 square metres of rugs and carpets in 1986. Over 7,000 square metres of rugs were exported to the FRG. In 1986 the company exported 30,000 pieces of Karakul pelt in London market and earned 28 million Afghanis (*KNT*, 13 April).

Imports

At a ceremony on 26th April, two TU-154M passenger aircrafts were delivered to the Bakhtar Afghan Airline which were purchased from the Soviet Union (*KNT*, 28 April).

The volume of import of the Afghan Cart Company in 1986 exceeded by 12 per cent than the plan target of 25 million dollars. The company imports different kinds of vehicles, refrigerators, air condi-

tioners, colour and black and white TV, iron ware, wooden articles, furnitures etc. The prices are 10-15 per cent less than in the open market. The goods are marketed through the Ministry of Commerce, Peasants Cooperatives and Ministry of Interior in the country. The company's imports are mainly from the USSR, GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Japan, France, Austria, India and other Asian countries (*KNT*, 4 April).

Briefs

Najib received on May 16, a high-ranking Soviet Economic delegation for Economic relations with foreign countries. Views were exchanged on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries (*KNT*, 18 April).

A power station was commissioned on April 5 in Bacha Kot near Kabul. It will supply power to 500 houses (*KNT*, 6 April).

Czechoslovakia's strojexport has been awarded a contract to supply equipment for the reconstruction of hard coal mines in the north. The aim is to raise production 180,000 tons a year (*MEED*, 11 April).

Agriculture

The DRA government will supply 75,870 tons of urea, phosphate and pesticide, valued at 66 million Afghanis to peasants of the country through agricultural cooperatives in the current spring sowing campaign. In 1986 the agricultural department distributed items valued at over 104 million Afghanis to the peasants. Soviet Union had given 20,000 tons of urea and 20,000 tons of phosphate as gratis aid in that period.

All possible efforts are made by the DRA through regular plans to improve irrigation. The present and future problems in irrigation system have been comprehensively included in the socio-economic plan for 1986-90. The investment earmarked for irrigation in the plan amounts to Afghanis 5.2 billion from domestic resources and about 37 million dollars from foreign assistance. The Soviet Union shares a fairly good part of the assistance to DRA in the field of irrigation. According to an agreement which was signed on December 27, 1980, all technical facilities for the repair and revival of irrigation projects undertaken in various parts of the country will be provided by the Soviet Union (*KNT*, 16 April).

37,500 hectares of land are to be cultivated with wheat, barley, cotton and vegetables in the Spring campaign this year in Jauzjan province. 400 tons of fertilizers and 200 tons of improved wheat seeds totalling 6.7 million Afghanis will be given to industrial peasants (*KNT*,

14 April).

Over 68,000 hectares of land were cultivated during the Autumn campaign of 1986 with wheat, crops and vegetables in Kunduz Province. 421 tons of urea, 193 tons of phosphate and 132 tons of improved wheat seeds were distributed to the peasants (*KNT*, 16 April).

The volume of agricultural products in Ningarhar province in 1986 increased by over 17,700 tons as compared to the previous year. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms 3,91,887 tons of Agricultural products were produced in the province in 1986. As claimed it is the result of effective use of material and technical assistance given by the government and particularly by the Soviet Union to the peasants of this province. The peasants received improved wheat, seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticide. Agricultural cooperatives have also been set up in the province (*KNT*, 2 April).

5 — EDUCATION, YOUTH AND HEALTH

Education

A technical course on proper utilization of new and renewable energy sources opened on April 8 with the financial assistance of the UNO. 12 Engineers and Scientists are attending the three months course. Officials of UNDP attended the inaugural ceremony (*KNT*, 9 April).

Four girls primary schools have been reopened in Laghman province. Five lycees and 18 primary and secondary schools with an enrolment of over 5600 students are functioning now in the province. It is proposed to construct four new schools in the province (*KNT*, 15 April).

A technical school was opened in 1986 in Balkh province under the educational policy of the DRA. 370 students have graduated in the fields of agro-machinery. The school admits 8-11 graders and after the completion of the courses. They are introduced to agricultural institutions. 45 students of the school have been sent to the USSR for higher studies (*KNT*, 15 April).

Literacy

On the eve of the 9th anniversary of April revolution, 36 new literacy courses with a strength of 322 students were opened in Parwan, Samangan, Paktia and Balkh provinces (*KNT*, 13 April).

A second functional literacy school was opened in Khair Khana Mena with 100 students who had completed literacy courses. 55 such

schools, with a strength of 11,000 students are functioning in the country. At present 400,000 people are under going 20,000 literacy courses throughout the country (*KNT*, 11 April).

Work for the construction of new schools and educational buildings is in progress all over the country. In the post revolution years, out of 631 new undertakings over 340 schools, kindergartens and apartments for teachers have been completed at a cost of 991 million Afghanis by the construction unit of Ministry of Education. The new schools built in the years of revolution, can accommodate 259,000 students in two shifts (*KNT*, 14 April).

Over 300 students were admitted to the evening courses of Kabul University last year and nearly 138 graduated. Technical schools were established in the fields of construction light industries, foodstuff and agriculture, making a total of six schools with a strength of 5,000 students in the centre and provinces. The number of students in the professional schools is at present 1,625 (*KNT*, 4 April).

The government of the DRA is paying much attention on the growth of education. The new system is based on scientific fundamentals. In 1985 one more class was added to the 10 class schooling system. It is claimed that the new methods in the system have proved very useful for the students to acquire professional and higher education, employing the newest modern scientific approach. The primary stage keeps its logical coherence with the secondary and prepares the students for coupling better with the next stage. The secondary stage helps the students learn the fundamentals of natural and social sciences. Seminars were held for training of teachers aimed at raising their teaching skills (*KNT*, 4 April).

Hamid Mubarez Deputy Minister of Education said that 412,155 literacy learners were enrolled in 19,599 literacy courses last years, while 159,165 persons completed the courses in the same year. Besides this 12,000, out of school children were admitted to 750 courses and 1356 students graduated from them. For the 1987 literacy plan, the Minister added that 7,500 literacy courses with a strength of 150,000 learners are purposed to be set up in Kabul city. Literacy through TV, Radio, and newspapers is also purposed for the handicapped in current programme.

A spokesman of the Academy of Sciences of the DRA stated that they have created standard alphabets for Nooristani, Pashaie and Baluchi Languages. The problems relating to research in the languages will be solved later (*KNT*, 7 April).

Youth

It is claimed by the DYOA that, 200,000 intellectuals from different nationalities, 30,000 young peasants and more than 160,000 pioneer are organized in 4,000 primary organizations and 3,000 departmental units of DYOA. DYOA has maintained relations with 245 international regional and national Youth Organizations. Protocols on cooperation have been signed with 35 of them. This organization is also a member of International Federation of Democratic Youth and the Students International Union (*KNT*, 18 April).

1317 young cadres, activists of the DYOA and the POA, have so far been graduated from the institute of young cadres and its provincial branches. The institute admits students who have completed 12th grade. After two years at the institute the graduates are introduced as professional cadres to the DYOA and POA committees and as teachers in sociology to schools (*KNT*, 14 April).

Health

It is planned to increase the number of medical doctors by 2708, other medical personnel by 5720 and pharmacist by 652, marking an increase of 25,15 and 13 per cent respectively in the period between 1986—1991. There are now 8600 beds in the hospitals, prices of medicines have been reduced ten per cent by the state pharmacies. There has been an increase in the rehabilitation of the disable persons. Vaccination Campaign against the six infant diseases is being successfully implemented (*KNT*, 7 April).

The central blood bank of the Ministry of Public Health was inaugurated in Kabul on April 21. The bank is built with the financial and technical assistance of the Soviet Union (*KNT*, 22 April).

Foundation stone of a polyclinic was laid on 12th April in Darul Aman, which is to be constructed at a cost of 28 million Afghanis, and will have pediatrics, surgery, medical dermatology, ophthalmology, neurology, obstetrics and gynaecology wards as well as a laboratory (*KNT*, 14 April).

Medicines worth more than 16,27,000 Afghanis were distributed by the north zone drugs department to the hospitals of Balkh province. The north zone drug department has 16 branches in the province and imports medicines from the Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, GDR, India and Italy (*KNT*, 14 April).

It is said that, 19 city health centres, 38 clinics for child and mother care, 68 family guidance associations have been formed after the revolution. The supply of medicines in the provinces is adequate (*KNT*, 14 April).

A protocol was signed between the DRA and the Soviet Union for Soviet cooperation in the field of public health. Under the protocol, Soviet Union will provide X-Ray and physiotherapy equipment, medical instruments and medicines to the public health institutions of the DRA as gratis aid. In addition to this Soviet Union will help to educate the Afghan Students in the fields of medicine, will also continue the services of Soviet doctors and experts working with Afghan government. Cooperation between the medical institutions of Kabul and Dushanbe will be increased (*KNT*, 5 April).

6 — SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

The party and the revolutionary state have been taking many positive steps for protecting Islam and improving the life of Ulema and Spiritual figures. 231 mosques and takias were newly constructed and 1026 others repaired and renovated spending 250,829,406 Afghanis during 1981–1985. The state plans to spend 136 million Afghanis on religious matters in 1987. Setting up of an Islamic Research Centre in Kabul in 1986 was another important step taken by the government. To assist pilgrims, the state granted a subsidy of 18,000 Afghanis on each round way ticket costing 5,112,000 Afghanis to the exchequer in 1986. Pilgrim going to Karbala, Shrine in Iraq are given a cash assistance of Afghanis 30,000 by the state and 28,800 on fare by the Ministry of Aviation. The DRA government had paid keen attention to other religions too. It has provided the Hindu Community facilities to perform their religious rights. 1,200 Hindus will go to India for immersion in Ganga Water this year. Employees of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Religious Trust have donated 25,698 Afghanis and Ulema Afghanis 43,988 to the repatriates funds. The state has provided residential apartments for the Imams and Ulema. Monthly salary and distribution of coupons is another assistance rendered by government for Ulema (*KNT*, 13 April).

The first countrywide conference of national entrepreneurs was inaugurated on April 18. Present at the inaugurational function were Najib, Katushov, head of the USSR delegation, government officials and diplomats of friendly countries. 324 representatives of national entrepreneurs including traders, businessmen and owners of factories attended the conference. In his speech Najib stressed the need for the growth of national economy and removing the socio-economic backwardness. At the end of his speech, Najib handed over the orders, medals, banners and honorary merit certificates to the outstanding businessmen (*KNT*, 20 April).

A cooperation protocol was signed on April 27, between the Afghan and Soviet Islamic and Religious Ministries in Kabul. The protocol covers cooperation in religious affairs and expansion of exchange of religious delegations between the two countries (*KNT*, 28 April).

Dar-ul-Hufaz of Aibak city was inaugurated on May 14 in Samangan province. Seventeen children are being taught to memorize the Holy Quran. Eight volumes of the Holy Quran were given to the Dar-ul-Hufaz by the government representatives (*KNT*, 15 April).

The foundation stone of the congregational mosque was laid on 4th April with the contributions from the people of the old city of Ghazni (*KNT*, 5 April).

The foundation stone of a congregational mosque in Bakhtiaran village, Kabul province was laid down on April 11 (*KNT*, 13 April).

Culture

An agreement on cooperation in consolidation and expansion of culture and exchange of information was renewed of the years 1982–1991 was signed on April 27, between the Journalists Union of the DRA and the Journalists Union of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Kabul (*KNT*, 28 April).

On the occasion of the 117th birth anniversary of V.I. Lenin a Soviet film festival was opened in Kabul. The festival was organized by Afghan Film and Soviet Film Export Agency in Kabul. The film features the life and struggles of V.I. Lenin (*KNT*, 19 April).

The number of the Balkh Provincial Women Council has reached 700 since the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation. The council has held 15 women's gatherings to explain the policy of national reconciliation, in which 3,000 women participated. The council also has set up a women's club where sewing and typing is taught (*KNT*, 19 April).

A photo and books exhibition devoted to the 75th birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung, President of DPRK was opened on May 15 in Kabul. Over hundred books and 120 pictures depicting the achievements of Korean people in socio-economic and cultural areas, were on display (*KNT*, 16 April).

A photo exhibition featuring the USSR's progress was inaugurated on April 14, in the hall of Journalists Union of the DRA. Acting Chairman of the Union spoke on the strong friendly relations between the two countries. 90 pictures were on display at the exhibition (*KNT*, 15 April).

Music bands are busy preparing programmes to welcome the 9th anniversary of the April revolution. Concerts are programmed from



April 10-30. The nations' ensemble consists of Pashtoon, Tajik, Uzbek, Hazara, Nooristani and Baluchi music groups. Sixty amateur music groups have among them 250 vocalists and instrumentalists. The Artists Union of the DRA, is also contributing to the promotion of Afghan popular music (*KNT*, 15 April).

A TASS photo exhibition entitled "Peace for World" was opened on April 11 in Kabul. Over 200 pictures featuring the progress of the Soviet people in the socio-economic and cultural spheres, and initiatives for the preservation and consolidation of peace were on display (*KNT*, 13 April).

A two day seminar on contemporary literature of Pashtoos and Baluchis organised by the Writer's Union of DRA was opened on 11 April. Over one hundred scholars took part in the seminar. 18 papers on different aspects of contemporary Pashtoon and Baluch literature and poetry were delivered at the moot (*KNT*, 11 April).

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